THE NEW
SUNDAY EXPRESS

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HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS

A young Palestinian girl searches the rubble of a house, which was bombarded by Israeli forces overnight off the Nuseirate refugee camp in central Gaza on March 16 amid the ongoing battle between Israel and Hamas | AFP | P14

adani

PRIVILEGED TO BE A PART OF
UTTAR PRADESH'S GROWTH STORY

The new terminal at
Chaudhary Charan Singh
International Airport, Lucknow

The grand inauguration of Lucknow Airport's Terminal 3 symbolises Adani Group's commitment of bringing the world to India. We are grateful for the foresight, guidance and support of the leaders, stakeholders and teams who made this vision a reality. Beyond a gateway, this majestic new terminal will serve as a vibrant reminder of the rising global stature of Uttar Pradesh.

Terminal 3 Overview

151k sq. m TOTAL TERMINAL AREA

72 CHECK-IN COUNTERS

4,000 Passengers PEAK HOUR HANDLING CAPACITY

1.4 crore PASSENGERS PER ANNUM HANDLING CAPACITY

62 IMMIGRATION COUNTERS

13 hectare GREEN COVER

LOST PUBLIC NOTICE

This Notice is hereby given by **MR. UDAY KUMAR K BHASKARA**, Aged 61 yrs., S/o Late B Kantharaj, stating that the Original Sale Deed for the Registration of Plot No 315/5, situated at Karnataka State Housing Federation Layout, Chunchanakuppe Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bangalore South on 30/07/2012 vide Sale deed No.BNG (U)-TVR 1801 2012-13 is lost/ misplaced. The loss of the document has been reported on 14/03/2024. If anyone finds the same, kindly hand over the documents on the following address:

UDAY KUMAR K BHASKARA
2505, 26th Cross, 17th Main, BSK 2nd Stage, B'lore-560070. Ph: +91 98440 80787.

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

Follow us on @SCRailwayindia
Details of the Tender Notices of S.C Railway can be seen on our website : www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

Open e-Tender Notice No. DRM/Works/SC/15-31/2024/ OT Dt: 14.03.2024

PUB/0278

For and on behalf of President of India, the undersigned invites e-tender for the following works up to 14.00 hours on 12.04.2024

01. e-Tender No.: 15_N_SC_24_OT **Name of the work** : KZJ-BPQ & MAGH-GDCR sections - Repairs to bridge protective works under ADEN/BPA Sub- Division. **Approx. Tender Value in : (₹)** 1,39,04,317/- **EMD: (₹)** 2,19,600/- **Completion period in Months:** 12 **Maintenance period in Months:** 06

02. e-Tender No.: 16_N_SC_24_OT **Name of the work** : KZJ-BPQ section - Repairs to bridge protective works under ADEN/RDM Sub- Division. **Approx. Tender Value in : (₹)** 1,21,85,510/- **EMD: (₹)** 2,11,000/- **Completion period in Months:** 12 **Maintenance period in Months:** 06

03. e-Tender No.: 17_N_SC_24_OT **Name of the work** : BPQ-KZJ section: Proposed repairs to central drain between UP& Dn lines and provision of central drain between DN&UD lines at RDM & MCI yards under ADEN/RDM sub division. **Approx. Tender Value in : (₹)** 2,39,63,479/- **EMD: (₹)** 2,69,900/- **Completion period in Months:** 06 **Maintenance period in Months:** 36

04. e-Tender No.: 18_N_SC_24_OT **Name of the work** : KZJ-BPQ section: Proposed Emergency dewatering accumulated rain water and clearing of silt under ADEN / RDM & BPA sub divisions in Sr.DEN/N/SC jurisdiction. **Approx. Tender Value in : (₹)** 55,49,391/- **EMD: (₹)** 1,11,000/- **Completion period in Months:** 12 **Maintenance period in Months:** Nil

05. e-Tender No.: 19_N_SC_24_OT **Name of the work** : SW 1) Repair to staff quarters at BPA, RECH & ASAF stations under ADEN/BPA sub division. SW 2) Repairs to staff quarters at SKZR, SRUR, MKDI, WIRR, VHGN, MAGH, RJUA & GDCR stations under ADEN/BPA sub division. SW 3) Repairs to service buildings at BPA, RECH, ASAF, SKZR, SRUR, MKDI, WIRR, VHGN, MAGH, RJUA & GDCR stations under ADEN/BPA sub division. **Approx. Tender Value in : (₹)** 3,78,21,461/- **EMD: (₹)** 3,39,200/- **Completion period in Months:** 12 **Maintenance period in Months:** 06

06. e-Tender No.: 20_N_SC_24_OT **Name of the work** : BPQ-KZJ Section: Repairs / maintenance to major yard at BPA, MCI & RDM stations under SSE/P.Way/BPA, MCI & PDPL under ADEN / BPA & ADEN / RDM sub divisions. **Approx. Tender Value in : (₹)** 3,21,67,945/- **EMD: (₹)** 3,10,900/- **Completion period in Months:** 06 **Maintenance period in Months:** Nil

07. e-Tender No.: 21_N_SC_24_OT **Name of the work** : BPQ-KZJ section: Proposed track strengthening by replacing of existing ST/wooden 1 in 8.5 points and crossing 08 Nos with PSC Sleepers and 60kg switches & CMS crossing (Class-I), and replacing of existing CST-9 plain track, 90Rails for a length of 3.00km with 60kg rails (Class-II) on PSC6 class-II released sleepers at FCI siding at JMKT station under Sr.DEN/North/SC section. **Approx. Tender Value in : (₹)** 43,13,590/- **EMD: (₹)** 86,300/- **Completion period in Months:** 06 **Maintenance period in Months:** 45 (Days)

08. e-Tender No.: 22_S_SC_24_OT **Name of the work** : SW 1) Repairs to Bridge protective works such as drop & curtain walls flooring, Toe walls, Inspection Steps, Desilting, Pitching etc. for Bridge Nos. 1A, 38, 119 of DKJ-MUGR section & Bridge No. 669A(ROB) at KMT yard of KZJ-BZA section (ORN-3) under ADEN/DKJ Sub-Division. SW 2) KZJ-BZA Section: Proposed Ancillary works like Retaining walls, approach road, drainage arrangement etc. for Bridge No. 754 A (RUB in lieu of LC No. 136) between GNN-CVV stations under ADEN/MDR Sub-Division. SW-3) MTMI-JPTN Section: Proposed Ancillary works like Retaining walls, approach road, drainage arrangement and etc. for Bridge No.148 A (RUB) between JPTN-RRPM stations under ADEN/MDR Sub-Division. **Approx. Tender Value in : (₹)** 4,35,69,973/- **EMD: (₹)** 3,67,900/- **Completion period in Months:** 06 **Maintenance period in Months:** 06

09. e-Tender No.: 23_S_SC_24_OT **Name of the work** : BDCR - Sattupalli Section: Proposed construction of new BG line between Bhadrachalam Road - Sattupalli stations - Construction of retaining wall and cutting of earth near Sattupalli between CH: 53.950m to 54.100m under Sr.DEN / South / SC section. **Approx. Tender Value in : (₹)** 3,48,19,982/- **EMD: (₹)** 3,24,100/- **Completion period in Months:** 06 **Maintenance period in Months:** 36

10. e-Tender No.: 24_BRS_SC_24_OT **Name of the work** : SC-WD section. SW 1) Replacement of corroded top Flange of Girders of Br.No.239 Up of span 4 x 17.19 mts at kms 190/37-41 between SC-HSJ stations of SC-WD section. SW 2) Replacement of corroded top Flange of Girders of Br.No.239Dn of span 4 x 17.19 mts at kms 190/38-42 between SC-HSJ stations of SC-WD section. **Approx. Tender Value in : (₹)** 78,20,147/- **EMD: (₹)** 1,56,400/- **Completion period in Months:** 03 **Maintenance period in Months:** 06

11. e-Tender No.: 25_BRS_SC_24_OT **Name of the work** : Maintenance of water level measuring instrument installed on Br No.642 UP, 511 Up, 727 Up, and 714 Up in KZJ-BZA section. Br No 298 Dn, 208 Up, 66 Up, 142 Up, in KZJ-BPQ section and Br No 22 MB in DKJ-MUGR section (Total nine Bridges). **Approx. Tender Value in : (₹)** 25,29,683/- **EMD: (₹)** 50,600/- **Completion period in Months:** 24 **Maintenance period in Months:** Nil

12.e-Tender No.: 26_NW_SC_24_OT **Name of the work** : PDPL-NZB section - Proposed Emergency dewatering accumulated rain water and clearing of silt under ADEN/ KRMR sub-divisions in DEN/NW/SC jurisdiction. **Approx. Tender Value in : (₹)** 58,29,516/- **EMD: (₹)** 1,16,600/- **Completion period in Months:** 12 **Maintenance period in Months:** Nil

13.e-Tender No.: 27_NW_SC_24_OT **Name of the work** : PDPL-NZB section: SW 1) Repairs to Drain line back side of Railway quarters in ADEN/KRMR Sub division. SW-2) Repairs to roof leakage with regarding and Repairs to water tanks and pipelines arrangement at Rly Qtrs under ADEN/KRMR section. SW-3) Repairs to Service buildings under ADEN/KRMR Subdivision. **Approx. Tender Value in : (₹)** 2,38,48,844/- **EMD: (₹)** 2,69,300/- **Completion period in Months:** 12 **Maintenance period in Months:** 06

14.e-Tender No.: 28_NW_SC_24_OT **Name of the work** : Supply of Potable drinking water through water tanker to staff quarters at Railway colonies and service buildings at BIDR, KHNP, HBU, BHLK, KCP, KMNR, UDGR, HER, CKX, LTRR, JOA, PNF, PRLI under ADEN/BIDR sub – division. **Approx. Tender Value in : (₹)** 37,03,190/- **EMD: (₹)** 74,100/- **Completion period in Months:** 06 **Maintenance period in Months:** NIL

15.e-Tender No.: 29_W_SC_24_OT **Name of the work** : SC-WD section: SW-1) Lingampalli – Repairs to running room to Quarter No. 33/3-4. SW-2) Repairs to leaky roofs doors and windows, fly proof mesh, flooring, plastering, verandah shed, toilets etc., in staff quarters under ADEN/VKB jurisdiction. SW-3) Repairs to leaky roofs doors and windows, fly proof mesh, flooring and plastering verandah shed, toilets, water supply arrangements, court yard doors, roads etc., in staff quarters in ADEN/TDU jurisdiction. **Approx. Tender Value in : (₹)** 2,16,37,513/- **EMD: (₹)** 2,58,200/- **Completion period in Months:** 09 **Maintenance period in Months:** 06

16.e-Tender No.: 30_CR_SC_24_OT **Name of the work** : SC-KZJ Section: Repairs to pipeline network at KZJ station from Waddepalli lake to KZJ. **Approx. Tender Value in : (₹)** 1,44,51,632/- **EMD: (₹)** 2,22,300/- **Completion period in Months:** 08 **Maintenance period in Months:** 36

17.e-Tender No.: 31_CR_SC_24_OT **Name of the work** : SC-KZJ section: Provision of safety fencing / boundary wall of along the track for speed 130 Kmph and above using fixed knot fencing with high tensile steel wire coated with Bezinal 2000 for 10 Kms fencing length (Phase-I) in DEN/Central/SC jurisdiction. **Approx. Tender Value in : (₹)** 2,25,99,081/- **EMD: (₹)** 2,63,000/- **Completion period in Months:** 06 **Maintenance period in Months:**45 (Days)

1. Tenderers should participate through e-tendering only and no manual offers may be considered.
2. All the prospective tenderers are requested to remit EMD through online payments / BG only.
3. The Railway reserves the right to cancel the tender without assigning any reason thereto.
4. All the prospective tenderers are advised to get GSTIN identification Nos. and submit along with their offer.

Sr.DEN/Co-ord/ Secunderabad,

SWABHIMANI SOUHARDHA CREDIT CO-OPERATIVE LTD.

Regd. Office: No. 125, 1st Floor, Kavi Lakshmeesha Road, (Diagonal Road), Beside Canara Bank, V.V. Puram, Bangalore-04. ☎: 4131 4393
Mobile: 9483514393 / 9483004088 email: info@swabhimanisouharda.com

Security Interest (Enforcement) Act 2002,
APPENDIX-IV, Rule-8(1)

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

Whereas: The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Swabhimani Souharda Credit Co-operative Ltd., under Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated:16-12-2023 calling upon the Borrowers and their Co-Obligants/Guarantors to repay the amount mentioned in the notice, being **Rs.1,54,71,930.00** (Rs.1,40,00,000/- towards principal and Rs.14,71,930.00 towards interest and other charges as on 16.12.2023) and further interest and cost, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers and their Co-Obligants/Guarantors-having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to them and the public in general, that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under section 13 (4) of the said Act, read with Rule 8 & 9 of the said Rules on this **12th day of March 2024.**

The Borrowers and their Co-Obligants/Guarantors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Swabhimani Souharda Credit Co-operative Ltd., for an amount of **Rs.1,60,34,263.00** (Rs.1,40,00,000/- towards principal and Rs.20,34,263.00 towards interest and other charges) as on **12.03.2024** and further costs and interest thereon.

The Borrowers and their Co-Obligants/Guarantors attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of the time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Name & Address of Borrower/ Co-obligant / Guarantor	Amount Payable	Description of the Immovable Property
1. **Sri Mr. AJAY R**, S/o Late D Ramaiah, aged 38 Years, residing # 316, SANMAHAL', 10th Cross Road, ISEC Main Road, Nagarabhavi, Bengaluru-560072, also residing at #104, 80Feet Ring Road, Mariyappanapalya, Near VSS International School, Ullalu Upanagara, Bengaluru-56005. 2. **Mrs. GOWRAMMA**, W/o Late D Ramaiah, aged 62 years, Residing at #64, Mariyappanapalya, Ullalu, Bengaluru-560056. 3. **Mr.SHIVAKUMAR R** S/o Late Ramakrishnaiah K, aged 38Years, Residing at #300, 9th Main, Srinivasanagar, Srigandanagar, Sunkadakatte V N Post, Bengaluru-560091. 4. **Mr.THEJU KUMAR S N** S/o Sri.Nagaraju S N, aged 36Years, Residing at #3, Siddaiahana Koppalu, Yeliyur Post, Mandya -571402 5. **Mr. SONU MISHRA**, S/o Sri B M Mishra, aged 38 years, R/at #469, 40th Cross, 2nd Block, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru-560010.	Rs. 1,60,34,263.00 (Rs. 1,40,00,000/- towards principal and Rs. 20,34,263.00 towards interest and other charges) as on 12.03.2024 and further costs and interest thereon.	**(Details of the Asset offered as security to the Credit facilities)** All the piece and parcel of the vacant site bearing No. 164, BBMP Khatha No. 2594/4104/2099/164, measuring East to West 70 Ft., and North to South 40 Ft., formed out of the land bearing Sy. No. 77, situated at Nagadevanahalli, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, at present within the revenue limits of Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike Ward No.130-Ullal, and at present bounded on the: East by : Remaining property belongs to Ajay. R, West by : 80 Ft., Ring Road, North by : Remaining property belongs to T. Gowramma, South by: 30 Ft., Road

Place: Bangalore
Date: 12-03-2024

Sd/-
C THIRUPALA REDDY,
AUTHORIZED OFFICER
Under SARFAESI Act 2002

THE ALL-NEW
TNIE
THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
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Tender Notice No.63/2024 Dt.15.03.2024. Supply Of Stores Items

PUB/0279

E-procurement Tender Notice

The following Tenders have been floated online. Tenders are requested to visit the website **www.ireps.gov.in** and submit their offers online. The Tender Description, Qty, EMD, SD may be seen in website. offers submitted manually will not be accepted. Offers by post will not be entertained. Tender Closing time is 14:30 hrs of the Due date of the Tender. "For all indigenous offers, EMD will be accepted only via online system as available on **www.ireps.gov.in**

Tender No	Brief Description
10.24.3152	Set consisting of end caps to scr DRG.No.
73.24.1511	Spilt pin steel size 10x12mm
38.24.2361	Load sensing device
65.23.5061	Supply, installation & commissioning of Hydraulic
10.24.3201A	Resin impregnated pleated filter paper
65.23.5053B	Manufacture, supply installation & Commissioning
29.24.5001	Compact design upgraded 7p RSI block
99.24.5002A	Comprehensive Annual Maintenance contract
66.24.5118	Stone 10v STD; 10.23ODX3.25
6024PT0019	Running contract for single piece spring
76.24.1017	Electrodes IRS class A2 size
60.23.8892	1 in 8.5 PSC T/O Sleepers to RDSO T-4865
60.24.5057	1 in 12 PSC T/O Sleepers to RDSO T-4218
60.23.7776	1 in 16 PSC T/O Sleepers to RDSO T-5691
10.80.6118	Set consisting of Two outer tubes
38.24.1031	Torsion Spring (steel) for ATL
82.24.1446A	Zonal rate contract for supply (PH.NO. 10059)
33.24.1642	Must change POH kit for M/s knorr brems
82.24.4991	Zonal rate contract for supply (PH.NO.42172)

Note:- Due dates of Tender Opening SL.NO 01.&02 on dt.01.04.2024 SLno.03 on dt 02.04.2024 SL.no.04 on dt 03.04.2024 SL .No 05 .to 07. on dt 05.04.2024 SL.No 08 to 11 on dt 08.04.2024 SL.No 12 & 13 on dt 09.04.2024 SL.No, 14 to 16 on dt 10.04.2024 SL No.17 on dt 15.04.2024 SL.No. 18 & 19 on dt 22.04.2024.

Beside Above Mentioned Tenders There Are Other Tenders Having Value Below Rs. 25 Lakhs. For Details, Please Visit Railway Website Above .

Principal Chief Material Manager, Secunderabad

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my clients have entered into an agreement to purchase the Schedule Property from its owners, **(i)M/s.BYRAWESHWARA ENTERPRISES,** a Partnership Firm and **(ii)M/s.MAYURA INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES,** a Partnership Firm, both having its office at: No.851, 'Sri Sai Aditya Enclave' Flat No.202, 2nd Floor, 32nd Cross, 29th Main, Poornapragna Layout, Uttarahalli, Bangalore – 560061, represented by its partners: **SRI.K.PUTTEGOWDA** S/o Sri.Kempegowda and his wife **SMT.SARSWATHI.P.**

Apart from the said owners, if any other person/s have any manner of claim or interest or demand over the Schedule property or any part thereof by way of sale, lease, mortgage, gift, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, pre-emption or otherwise howsoever, they are hereby requested to file their objection/s (along with the photocopies of the documents on which they rely), with the undersigned within **10 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

Item No.1: All that piece and parcel of KIADB Plot No.25-P2-X (formed in Sy.No.135), bearing E-Khatha No.7126972107, measuring East to West 30 Mtrs and North to South 51 Mtrs, in all measuring 1530 Sq.Mtrs., together with an Industrial Shed thereon, situated at Bidadi Phase I Industrial Area, Abbanakuppe Village, Bidadi Town, Ramanagara Taluk and District and bounded on:

East by : Plot No.25-P2(Y)
West by : Plot No.25-P
North by : Plot No.25-P KIADB Land
South by : KIADB Road

Item No.2: All that piece and parcel of KIADB Plot No.25-P2-(4) (formed in Sy.No.135), bearing E-Khatha No.2493251263, measuring East to West 25 Mtrs and North to South 51 Mtrs, in all measuring 1275 Sq.Mtrs, together with an Industrial Shed thereon, situated at Bidadi Phase I Industrial Area, Abbanakuppe Village, Bidadi Town, Ramanagara Taluk and District and bounded on:

East by : Plot No.25-P2 & 3
West by : Plot No.25-P2(X)
North by : Plot No.25-P
South by : KIADB Road

Sd/- **S.F. GOUTAM CHAND**
Advocate
GOUTAM ASSOCIATES
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560 004.

UNION BANK OF INDIA

(A Government of India Undertaking)
Club Road Koramangala Branch, No. 83,17th D Main, 6th Cross, Club Road, Koramangala 6th Block, Bengaluru-560095.
Contact no: 9372706202, E-Mail ID: ubin0906204@unionbankofindia.bank

POSSESSION NOTICE [Rule - 8(1)] (For immovable Property)

Whereas the undersigned being the authorized Officer of the **Union Bank of India, Club Road Koramangala Branch** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (Second) Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated **06/12/2023** calling upon the **Borrowers, 1) Mr.Mahesh Ponnam** S/o Ponnam Mallesham **& 2) Mrs. Ponnam Ganga Jemuna** W/o Mahesh Ponnam residents of 2-2-67, Shivalayam Street, Mallial, Karimnagar, Telangana 505452 **& Guarantor, 1) Mr. Seena** S/o Annamalai resident of No.170, 24th Cross, Old Bagalur Layout, St. Thomas Town, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560084, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice of **Rs.59,79,283.14 (Rupees Fifty Nine Lakhs Seventy Nine Thousand Two Hundred & Eighty Three and Fourteen Paise Only)** and interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement) Rules 2002 on this **16th Day of March 2024.**

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **Union Bank of India, Club Road Koramangala Branch** for an amount **Rs.59,79,283.14** (Rupees Fifty Nine Lakhs Seventy Nine Thousand Two Hundred & Eighty Three and Fourteen Paise Only) and interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to the borrower to redeem the secured assets.

Description of Secured Assets:

Schedule 'A' Property: All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing: **Item No 1:** Survey No 30/2, measuring 39 (Thirty Nine) Guntas. **Item No 2:** Survey No 30/6, Measuring 7 (Seven) Guntas (out of 32 Guntas). **Item No 3:** Survey No.42/2, measuring 13 (Thirteen) Guntas. **Item No 4:** Survey No 42/8 measuring 1(one) acre 17 (Seventeen) Guntas. **Item No 5:** Survey No 42/1, measuring 25 (Twenty Five) Guntas. **Item No 6:** Survey No 42/8, measuring 05 (Five) Guntas. **Item No 7:** Survey No 43, measuring 2 ¾ (Two and Three Fourth) Guntas. **Item No 8:** Survey No 42/3, measuring 34 (Thirty Four) Guntas. **Item No 9:** Survey No 42/4, measuring 06(Six) Guntas.

All together totally measuring 4 (Four) Acres 28 ¾ (Twenty Eight & Three Fourth) Guntas i.e. Item No 1 to 4 and 6 to 9 of the said properties have been converted from agricultural use to non-agricultural residential purposes vide the Official Memorandum dated 17-02-2023 in No ALN(E.K.H.W) Sr:126/2011-12 issued by the Deputy Commisioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore and the rectified official memorandum dated 17-02-2012 in No ALN(E.K.H.W) SR: 126/2011-12 issue by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore and further Item No 5 of the said property has been converted from agricultural use to non-agriculutral residential purposes vide the Official Memorandum dated 17-10-2008 in No. BDS ALN€ SR:KH: 83/07-08- issued by the Special District Commissioner, Bangalore District Bangalore, present BBMP khata no 1054/46 situated at Hagadur Village, Krishnarajapuram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk and bounded on: East By: Remaining land in Sy No 42/8 and 43 & Road, West By: Land in Survey No 19 & 30/1 and Remaining Land in 30/6, North By: Nagondanahalli Village Boundary and Remaining land in Sy No 42/1, South By: Land in Survey No 30/3, 30/7, 42/4 and remaining land in survey no 42/6 and 42/7.

Schedule 'B' Property: 349.98 Sq Ft of Undivided right, title and interest in the immovable property mentioned in Schedule "A" above

Schedule 'C' Property: Apartment/Flat No 001, on Ground Floor of "E" Block in "Unit-1-Cedar", measuring 1190 Sq Ft super built up area containing Two(2) Bed Rooms, together with RCC roofing, vitrified flooring, along with One Covered car parking space, including proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, staircase etc in the multistoried residential building known as "B.M. Magnolia Park" constructed in the Schedule "A" property.

Date: 16.03.2024
Place: Bengaluru

Authorised Officer
Union Bank of India

QuoteExpress IT ALWAYS SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE UNTIL IT'S DONE › NELSON MANDELA

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER (through https://ireps.gov.in)

PUB/0280

CE/C-III/SC Construction Organisation, S.C.Railway, Secunderabad, respectively, invites e-tender on behalf of the President of India for the following works:

1. NIT No: PMS-01-CAO- C-SC- 2024 Date: 14/03/2024 **Name of work**: SCR Construction Organisation: Guntur Division-Appointment of Authority Engineer for providing Project Management Services(PMS) for "Construction of doubling between GUNTUR and BIBINAGAR section of South Central Railway" **Estimated Cost: (₹)** 41,85,02,000.00 **EMD: (₹)** 22,42,500.00 **Completion Period :** 60 (Sixty)Months **Date of Opening:** 17/05/2024 15:00hrs.

2. NIT No: PMS-02-CAO- C-SC- 2024 Date:14/03/2024 **Name of work**: SCR Construction Organisation: Vijayawada Division-Appointment of Authority Engineer for providing Project Management Services(PMS) for " Kotipalli- Narsapur New BG line: Proposed construction of superstructure for important bridge no.158 over Gowthami river" **Estimated Cost:(₹)** 3,55,99,200.00 **EMD: (₹)** 3,28,000.00 **Completion Period :** 30 (Thirty)Months **Date of Opening:** 17/05/2024 15:00hrs.

I) For bid document and other details, please login to website **https://ireps.gov.in.**
ii) Tenderers can submit their offers online during tender submission period which is the Fifteen days period prior to closing of tender.
iii) Tenderers should watch for any corrigenda (issued online only) up to the date of commencement of the tender submission period.

Chief Administrative Officer/Const./ Secunderabad
A0350

For further tender conditions / details and for downloading the tender documents, Please visit website at https://www.ireps.gov.in or www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

G20

E-Tender Notice No. 10/2024
Dated:11-03-2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Description in Brief:- Emergency Medical Box one set Containing one box and 24 Equipments and Instruments, **(Qty. 10 Set) (Tender No. L8245363)**

Last date for submission of bids for:
Upto 10:30 Hrs. on 04-04-2024

For details log on:www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Materials Manager
Bengaluru
PUB/751/AAD/PRB/SWR/2023-24

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II AT BANGALORE

B.S.N.L. Building, 4th Floor,
Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore-560001.

OA No. 205/2022

BETWEEN: Mr Suresh .K Kotian and others ... **APPLICANTS**

AND: Authorized officer, Edelweiss Asset Reconstruction Company Limited and others ... DEFENDANTS

To, **DEFENDANT No. 3 and 5**

3. M/s Aswani Properties, A Registered Partnership Firm having its office at #50/7, 2nd and 3rd floor, 16th Main, 39th cross, Jayanagar 4th 'T' Block, Bengaluru-560041. Represented by its Managing Partner and Authorised Signatory Mr. C. Anand Reddy, S/o Chinnaswamy Reddy, aged about 47 years. Also at No.911, Shri Kshetra Complex, 28th Main, 39th cross, 9th Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru-560069.

5. Mr. B. Rama Reddy, S/o Bodappa Reddy, aged about 67 years, R/at No.49, Govinda Shetty Palya, Near Venkateshara Darshini Hotel, Bengaluru-560100.

SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES 1993.

Whereas the applicant has instituted Securitisation application under Section Application under Section 17 of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 Recovery of the Debts Due To Banks and Financial Institutions Act 1993 against you to Quash /set aside the Possession Notice dated: 08/03/2022 issued by the Respondent No1 Bank and all further proceedings pursuant there to and other reliefs.

The above mentioned defendant/s is/are therefore hereby directed to appear before this Tribunal in person or through an Advocate or duly authorized agent of his/their defense to show cause on **01/04/2024** at **10:30 A.M.** as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted. Take summons that in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on this 15-03-2024.

By order of the Tribunal, Registrar, Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Bangalore.

Canara Bank — Vimanapura Branch

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank (A Government of India Undertaking)

Jesukripa Complex, (HAL Colony), Old Airport Road, Bangalore-560017. Ph : 080-25220389 (C),
M : 9449860020, Email : cb10411@canarabank.com

POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the **Canara Bank** under Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated **01.02.2023** calling upon the **borrower :** That **M/s. P R M Travel Aid,** Represented by its proprietor **Manuvel L** S/o. E. Lorduswamy & **Sri/Smt/M/s. R.V. Ravi** S/o. Velu (hereinafter referred to as "the Guarantor") to repay the amount mentioned in the notice, being **Rs. 33,56,897.16** (Rupees Thirty Three Lakhs Fifty Six Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety Seven and Paisa Sixteen Only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general, that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under section 13 (4) of the said Act, read with Rule 8 & 9 of the said Rule on this **13th day of March of the year 2024.**

The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **CANARA BANK** for an amount of **Rs. 33,56,897.16** (Rupees Thirty Three Lakhs Fifty Six Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety Seven and Paisa Sixteen Only) and interest thereon.

Description of the Immovable Property : Hypothecation of Receivables and Book Debts. **Immovable :** All that piece parcel of the Immovable HOUSE property bearing No. 22, Old No. 59 (BBMP Khata No.57), BBMP Ward No. 88. Extent : Measuring East to West : 20 feet and North to South :15 feet, in all totally measuring 300 sq feet with Residential Building consisting of Ground +2 floors. Locality : Situated at Sudhamanagar,Jeevanbhimanagar Circle, presently within the Juristional Limits of BBMP, 2nd Cross, 5th Main, BDA Layout, Sudhamanagar, Bangalore-560075.**Bounded on : East by :** Road, **West by :** Site No 40, **North by :** Site No. 60, **South by :** Site No. 58.

Date: 13.03.2024
Place: Bangalore.

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the kind notice of the General Public that, My Clients **MRS. RAJAMMA .E, MR. SAI PRAKASH,** MR. **SAI KRISHNA ENREDDY & MRS. RINKU ENREDDY,** have lost/misplaced the Original Sale deed dated 14.07.1967 Document No.2110/1967-68, pertaining to the scheduled property, and further state that My clients have not created any encumbrance/charge over the schedule property, in any banks, financial institutions etc.

And Further state that My clients MRS. RAJAMMA .E, MR.SAI PRAKASH, MR.SAI KRISHNA ENREDDY & MRS.RINKU ENREDDY, are availing a loan in Nationalized banks or in any other Financial Institutions, etc., and if anybody having objections or claim over the said property or the Original documents they can lodge their claims and objections with relevant documents with the undersigned within **Seven (7) days** from the date of this notice, failing which the claims of all such persons shall be deemed to have been waived or abandoned., and My Clients shall avail a Home loan/ Mortgage/Education loan etc., with respect of the schedule property.

Further, If any person/s finds the above original document Original Sale deed dated 14.07.1967 Document No.2110/1967-68, may be delivered to the below mentioned address.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of immovable Residential House bearing Site No.43, in the First Floor, 2 BHK with 1050 Sq.ft., of built up area, Second Floor 2 BHK with 1050 Sq.ft., of built up area, and Third Floor with 1050 Sq.ft., of built up area, and undivided share is 900 Sq.ft., out of 1200 Sq.ft., thereon., Situated at Thimmenahalli, 2nd Main Road Kampapura Agrahara Dakale, Corporation Division No.21 present 29, Bangalore, and now at Prashanti Nikethana, Gangadhara Layout, Govindraj Nagar, Bangalore, now comes under the limits of BBMP, Bangalore assigning the Ward No.104, Ward Name: Govindrajnagara, with Unique PID No.36-49-37/4-59-1, Measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 30 feet., and total area 111.41 Square Meters., thereon., and bounded on: **East by:** Private Property, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Site No.42, **South by:** Private Property

K. MANJUNATHA LAW ASSOCIATES
ADVOCATES & LEGAL CONSULTANTS
Office at No. 393, & No.40/5, First Floor, 19th Main Road, 1st Block, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru-560010. Date: 16.03.2024

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Government of Karnataka

MINOR IRRIGATION & GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Office of the Executive Engineer, MI & GWD Div., Chitradurga.

NO.EE/MI&GWD DIV/CTA/PB,2/TENDER NOTIFICATION:23/2023-24/688 DATE: 14.03.2024

Re Call -TENDER NOTIFICATION: 23/2023-24

K.W.-2/3/4 & KC-2(ONE-TWO COVER SISTEM)

Item rate tender in two cover system as per rule 28 of KTPP act-2000 with latest amendments is invited from the eligible Class-I & II contractors Registered in PWD & Eligible Agency/Consultancy for the following work through e-procurement portal. The tender documents may be downloaded from official website of Karnataka Government. Tender should be submitted through online in official e-procurement portal only. Tenders will be opened as per the guidelines of e-procurement portal. (Note; Bidder should quote the rates including GST).

(1) Eligibility of Contractors: Class-I &2 Contractors Registered K. P.W.D. (2) Last Date & Time for enquiries about tender: 25.03.2024 upto 5:30 P.M. (3) Last Date for submission of Tenders: 26.03.2024 upto 4:00 P.M. (4) Date & Time of Opening of Tender (If possible): (a) Technical Bid 27.03.2024 after 04:30 P.M. (b) Finacial Bid: 28.03.2024 after 10:30 AM.

Name of work: (1) CONSTRUCTION OF CHECKDAM CUM BRIDGE ACROSS HALLA NEAR SIDIHALLI VILLAGE IN JAGALUR TALUK DAVANAGERE DISTRICT.(CALL-2). Amount put to tender in Lakhs: 397.64. E.M.D. in Rs. In Lakhs: 5.97. Period of completion (including rainy season): 06 Months including monsoon period. Class of Contractor: Class-I Contractors Registered K.P.W.D.

Note: Tender documents may be downloaded from Government of Karnataka e-procurement website http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in from 14-03-2024. Tenders may be submitted along with EMD and tender fee (Mode of payment should be online only as prescribed in website). Amount mentioned in e-portal is final for the amount put to tender & the E.M.D. Additional Information regarding works may be obtained from the Division Office during office hours & from e-procurement help desk No.080-25501216 & 080-25501227.

RO No. 717: DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/2023-24

Sd/- Executive Engineer

STATE BANK OF INDIA

Retail Assets Central Processing Centre
Bangalore Central, L C Road, Shivajinagar, Bengaluru-560001
Mobile No. 9611093484,Email: sbi.63988@sbi.co.in, cmmaint.racpcsmr@sbi.co.in

DEMAND NOTICE TO BORROWERS

UNDER SUB SECTION (2) OF SECTION 13 OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS & ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 (HEREINAFTER CALLED ACT)

At your request, Bank has extended credit facilities to the below mentioned individuals against secured assets through its branch mentioned thereon, Bengaluru. The relevant particulars of the property on which you have created security interest by execution of security agreement/documents & creation of mortgage by way deposit of title deeds are furnished hereunder. As the operation and conduct of the financial assistance/ credit facilities have become irregular, the debts have been classified as Non-Performing Assets in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India consequent to the default committed by the borrower in repayment of the principal debt and interest thereon. As the demand notice sent by register AD calling upon you, was un-served/not acknowledged, this publication is now issued.

(1) Name and address of the Borrowers: **Smt. Vandana Kumari,** W/o. Sri. Mithun Singh, No.315, Teacher's Colony, Chikkabidarakallu, Near BSNL Tower,Bangalore-560073.Also, at:ii. Emp.No.0014, Product Development, Orchestra Buying and Reatil India Pvt.Ltd,KVD Towers, 7/3, Old Madras Road,Opp 100ft Road, Indiranagar, Bangalore-560038.iii. Flat No.401 & 402, 4th Floor,"GOMATHA HOMES", Stie No.94, Arehalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli,Bengaluru – 560061.

Outstanding Loan Amount: **Rs. 1,35,74,518/-** (Rupees One Crore Thirty Five Lakhs Seventy Four Thousand Five Hundred and Eighteen only) as on 06.02.2024 and interest at contractual rate together with incidental expenses, costs, charges, etc.

Schedule of Property Mortgaged: Property-1 SCHEDULE – 'A' PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of the Residential property bearing site No.94, in Katha No.15/3, now BBMP Katha Property No.640/454/94/15/ 3, situated at Arehalli village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, East to West: 60-0 feet and North to South:40-0 feet, in all measuring 2400 square feet, converted land bearing Sy.No.15/3, duly converted for agricultural to non-agricultural residential purposes vide its order No.ALN(S.U)S.R/253/11-12, dated:13/04/ 2012, by the Deputy Commissioner Bangalore District, Bangalore, now the property comes under the limit of Bruhat Banaglore Mahanagara Palike, ward No.184, Uttarahlli Sub-zone, bangalore, bounded on the: **East by:** Road, **West by:** Site No.103, **North by**: Site No.93 and **South by:** Site No.94/A.

SCHEDULE – 'B' PROPERTY: 200.70 Sq. Feet, undivided share, right, title and interest, claims whatever in the land of the Schedule "A" Property.

SCHEDULE - 'C' PROPERTY: Residential Apartment bearing **Flat No.402**, at **Fourth Floor** of the apartment building known as **"GOMATHA HOMES"**, having super built up area of 1050 square feet, consisting of 2 bed rooms, 1 hall, 1 kitchen with attached bathroom, walls constructed with cement and solid blocks, doors and windows made of wood, with vitrified tiles flooring, with civic amenities and with right to use common areas, entrance, staircases, passages, corridors etc., provided in the Schedule 'A' property.

Property-2: SCHEDULE – 'A' PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of the Residential property bearing site No.94, in Katha No.15/3, now BBMP Katha Property No.640/454/94/15/3, situated at Arehalli village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, East to West: 60-0 feet and North to South:40-0 feet, in all measuring 2400 square feet, converted land bearing Sy.No.15/3, duly converted for agricultural to non-agricultural residential purposes vide its order No.ALN(S.U)S.R/253/11-12, dated:13/04/2012, by the Deputy Commissioner Bangalore District, Bangalore, now the property comes under the limit of Bruhat Banaglore Mahanagara Palike, ward No.184, Uttarahlli Sub-zone, bangalore, bounded on the: **East by:** Road, **West by:** Site No.103, **North by**: Site No.93 and **South by:** Site No.94/A,

SCHEDULE – 'B' PROPERTY: 210 Sq. Feet., undivided share, right, title and interest, claims whatever in the land of the Schedule "A" Property.

SCHEDULE - 'C' PROPERTY: Residential Apartment bearing **Flat No.401**, at **Fourth Floor** of the apartment building known as **"GOMATHA HOMES"**, having super built up area of 1100 square feet, consisting of 2 bed rooms, 1 hall, 1 kitchen with attached bathroom, walls constructed with cement and solid blocks, doors and windows made of wood, with vitrified tiles flooring, with civic amenities and with right to use common areas, entrance, staircases, passages, corridors etc., provided in the Schedule 'A' property.

Name of the Branch: SPB Branch — **Account No: HL – 36241676396**
Date of NPA: 05.02.2024 — **Demand Notice Date:07.02.2024**

(2)Name and address of the Borrower: Sri. Balbir Singh, S/o. Surjit Singh, No.F1005, Silicon Oasis, Nadd Hessa NewPost Box No. 8541, Dubai, Also, at :ii) Biharipur, Tarn Taran, Punjab-143 117. iii) No. 8/4, Wheeler Road, Sindhi Colony, Next to Surana Medicals, Opp: BBMP Hall, Bengaluru – 560 005. iv) Municipal Door No.60/20, Site No.20, New Municipal No.133, 1st Main, Marenahalli, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru- 560 040.

Outstanding Loan Amount:Rs. 1,68,75,080/- (Rupees One Crore Sixty Eight Lakhs Seventy Five Thousand Eighty Only) as on 16.02.2024 and interest at contractual rate together with incidental expenses, costs, charges, etc.

Schedule of Property Mortgaged: All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Site No.20, Municipal Door No.60/20, Katha No.PID-35-8-133, New Municipal No.133, BBMP Ward No.125, situated at 1st Main, Marenahalli, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru, measuring East to West 50 feet, North to South 26 ½ feet with RCC roof 20 square GF+FF and SF building and bounded on the East by: Road, West by: Private Property, North by: Private Property and South by: D.H.Rajanna's Property.

Name of the Branch: Mahatma Gandhi Road — **Account No.HL-41434101137**
Date of NPA: 15.02.2024 — **Demand Notice Date:16.02.2024**

If you fail to repay the aforesaid sum with interest and incidental expenses within 60 days from the date of this notice, Bank shall exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub section (4) of the section 13 of the SARFAESI Act. You are also put on notice that in terms of sub section 13 of section 13, you shall not transfer by sale, lease or otherwise the said secured assets detailed above without obtaining written consent of the Bank. This notice is without prejudice to the Banks rights to initiate such other action or legal proceedings as it deem necessary under any other applicable provisions of law.

The Bank reserves its rights to call upon you to repay the liabilities that may arise under the outstanding Bills Discounted, Bank Guarantees and Letter of Credit issued and established on your behalf as well as other contingent liabilities.

Your kind attention is invited to provisions of sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act whereunder you can tender the entire amount of outstanding dues together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Bank only till the date of publication of the notice for sale of the secured asset(s) by public auction, by inviting quotations, tender from public or by private treaty. Please also note that if the entire amount of outstanding dues together with the costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Bank is not tendered before publication of notice for sale of the secured assets by public auction, by inviting quotations, tender from public or by private treaty, you may not be entitled to redeem the secured asset(s).

This notice is without prejudice to the Bank's right to initiate such other actions or legal proceedings, as it deems necessary under any other applicable provisions of Law.

Place:Bengaluru
Date: 14.03.2024

Sd/-Authorised Officer, State Bank Of India,
RACPC L C. Road, Shivajinagar, Bengaluru

THE NEW
SUNDAY EXPRESS
BENGALURU • SUNDAY • MARCH 17, 2024 • ₹12.00 • PAGES 30 • LATE CITY EDITION

ECI TO PUBLISH BONDS DATA ON WEBSITE TODAY

The Supreme Court registry on Saturday handed the electoral bonds data submitted by the ECI back to it. The ECI had sought the documents, given in 2019 and 2023, to be returned so that it could publish them on its website in accordance with an earlier SC order. Hearing the ECI's petition on Friday, the SC had asked the registry to hand the papers back by 5 pm on Saturday, after digitising them. The panel has been told to publish them on its website by 5 pm on Sunday

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RERA REGISTRATION NUMBER
PRM/KA/RERA/1251/309/PR/060324/006678
For more details, visit: https://rera.karnataka.gov.in

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▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM
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▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT KICKS IN

The Model Code of Conduct came into force on Saturday with the announcement of Lok Sabha polls. Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar requested all parties to adhere to the norms and warned that the ECI will be 'ruthless' if violence takes place

CEC ON ARUN GOEL'S SUDDEN RESIGNATION

CEC Rajiv Kumar on dissent within the poll panel said, "We have a sound tradition–dissent within commission is encouraged, because it is such a complicated exercise, three minds are better than one, we sleep over issues, we take time, we assimilate. Those who can challenge you should be kept close." Goel, whose tenure was till Dec 2027, resigned on March 9

Polling in Bihar, UP & West Bengal to stretch across all 7 phases; Assembly polls in Andhra, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha, and Sikkim also being held during the 44-day election season

7-PHASE LS POLLS START FROM APRIL 19, COUNTING ON JUNE 4

Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar with Election Commissioners Gyanesh Kumar and S S Sandhu announcing the poll schedule in New Delhi on Saturday | SHEKHAR YADAV

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

THE 2024 Lok Sabha elections will be held in seven phases from April 19 to June 1, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Rajiv Kumar announced on Saturday. Assembly elections in four states – Arunachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, and Sikkim – and bypolls in 26 Assembly constituencies will also be held during the 44-day poll season. The results of all elections will be declared on June 4.

According to the CEC, voters will choose 102 candidates across 21 states in the first phase on April 19. The second phase on April 26 will cover 89 LS seats across 13 states/Union territories. The third phase polling will be held on May 7 in 12 states for 94 seats. The fourth phase on May 13 will seal the fate of 96 seats in 10 states. The next phase on May 20 will see voters in eight states choosing 49 candidates. Phase six on May 25 will elect 57 Parliamentarians across seven states. And the last phase on June 1 will elect candidates in the remaining 57 seats in eight states.

Elections in three states – Bihar (40 seats), Uttar Pradesh (80 seats), and West Bengal (42 seats) – will stretch across all seven phases.

Of the four states that will have Assembly elections, Arunchal Pradesh (60 seats) and Sikkim (32 seats) will have polls on April 19, while Andhra Pradesh (175 seats) will have elections on May 13. However, Odisha will vote for its 147-member state assembly poll alongside the 21 Lok Sabha seats in four phases on May 13, 20, 25, and June 1. The dates coincide with the 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th phases of the general elections.

The poll authority is prepared to counter the challenges of four 'M's – muscle power, money power, misinformation, and Model Code of Conduct violations – the CEC said at a press conference flanked by two new Election Commissioners Gyanesh Kumar and Sukhbir Singh Sandhu.

"I would appeal to parties to maintain decorum during the campaign and refrain from personal attacks," Kumar said.

Under no circumstances can children be used in campaigning, the CEC warned. He also said advertisements masquerading as news will not be permitted.

Kumar said Assembly election in Jammu and Kashmir would take place soon after the Lok Sabha polls are over. He said this is due to security concerns as it will be difficult to hold events simultaneously.

The ruling BJP is confident of retaining power at the Centre on the back of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's image while the Opposition parties are hopeful the voters will give them a chance. The Congress said this was "perhaps the last chance to save democracy and our Constitution from dictatorship".

P11, 12

Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	Phase 6	Phase 7
April 19	April 26	May 7	May 13	May 20	May 25	June 1
21 states	13 states	12 states	10 states	13 states	7 states	8 states
102 seats	89 seats	94 seats	96 seats	49 seats	57 seats	57* seats

* Total number of constituencies is 543. The numbers add up to 544 because Outer Manipur constituency will have elections on two days

SAVE THE DATES

* In Manipur, people living in camps will be allowed to vote from there with the EC making special two-phase voting arrangements in one of the two Lok Sabha constituencies

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS IN 4 STATES

Odisha.....147 seats	Andhra Pradesh	Arunachal Pradesh	Sikkim
13 May 2024....28 seats	175 seats	60 seats	32 seats
20 May 2024....35 seats	13 May 2024	19 Apr 2024	19 Apr 2024
25 May 2024....42 seats			
1 June 2024.....42 seats			

969 Mn

THE TOTAL NO OF VOTERS, UP FROM 896 MILLION IN 2019

KARNATAKA TO VOTE ON APRIL 26, MAY 7

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

VOTING in Karnataka will be held in two phases this Lok Sabha elections, and the state falls under Phases 2 and 3 of the all-India plan.

In the first phase for Karnataka, voting will be on April 26, covering 14 parliamentary constituencies of south Karnataka, including all four constituencies of Bengaluru, Dakshina Kannada and Mysuru. In the second phase, voting will be on May 7, covering the rest of the 14 constituencies of Kalyana Karnataka, North Karnataka and Mumbai-Karnataka. The counting of votes will be on June 4 and the model code of conduct will end on June 6.

The total number of voters in the state is 5,42,08,088, of which males and females are 2,71,21,407 and 2,70,81,748, respectively. There are also 4,933 third-gender voters. There are 11,24,622 first-time voters, 5,70,168 voters aged above 85 and 11,000 voters above 100 years old.

Compared to the 2019 elections, the total number of voters has risen by 6.8%. There is a 5.12% and 7.26% rise in male and female voters. First-time voters have risen by 11.34% and persons with disability by 42.39%.

P9

Excise scam: BRS leader Kavitha remanded in 7-day ED custody

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @ New Delhi

THE Rouse Avenue Court on Saturday remanded Bharat Rashtra Samithi leader K Kavitha in seven-day Enforcement Directorate custody for her alleged involvement in the Delhi liquor excise policy case. Special judge (Prevention of Corruption Act) M K Nagpal directed that Kavitha would remain in ED custody till March 23. The ED sought 10-day custody.

Kavitha, 46, the daughter of former Telangana CM K Chandrashekar Rao, was brought to the court under heavy security. Terming her arrest illegal, she said: "We will fight it in the court."

Senior advocate Vikram Chaudhary appearing for Kavitha argued that her arrest was a blatant abuse of power that violated an effective stay on her arrest, at least until March 19, when the Supreme Court is due to hear her plea. Chaudhary said the Additional Solicitor General had verbally assured the court that Kavitha would not be arrested until March 19. "Look at the way she was arrested. This is completely illegal," he said.

ED's lawyer Zoheb Hossain contested this saying the agency did not say it won't take coercive steps. The ED's statement was "we will issue summons after 10 days", he said, adding: "You can't presume an interim relief in your favour if there is no express order".

Court grants bail to Arvind Kejriwal

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @ New Delhi

IN a partial relief to Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, a city court on Saturday granted him bail in two complaints filed by the Enforcement Directorate for skipping summonses in a money laundering case linked to the Delhi excise policy case.

The court of Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Divya Malhotra also allowed Kejriwal to leave the courtroom.

"Offence being bailable, accused Arvind Kejriwal is admitted to bail," it said.

Kejriwal had to appear before the courtroom physically in the case in compliance with the court's order. The court directed Kejriwal to furnish a bail bond of Rs 15,000 and a surety of Rs 1 lakh before enlarging him on bail.

The ED served him eight summonses, but he failed to appear before the court for questioning. The ED took legal recourse against the AAP leader, to make him available for questioning. The Central agency moved the court seeking a direction for his availability before it.

Kejriwal said he did not miss the ED summonses intentionally.

It's AI, PM to speak in Kannada

ASHWINI M SRIPAD @ Bengaluru

IN Lok Sabha poll campaigning, BJP is using the AI-based technology to translate speeches made by their national leaders, which are usually in Hindi, to other Indian languages to reach a wider audience. BJP has already started with recorded speeches with the voiceover in regional languages, but soon, the speeches will be translated realtime.

Three months ago, PM Narendra Modi took part in an event organised by the Kashi Tamil Sangamam in Varanasi and an attempt was made to translate Modi's Hindi speech live into Tamil, using Bhashini, an app developed by the Indian government. The audience was able to hear it in Tamil using their smartphones. "But there were some technical glitches and also the emotion part was missing. They are working on it. It will be a reality soon and audiences will be able to listen to speeches live in any of the Indian languages," a BJP leader told *TNIE*.

P7

PM Narendra Modi at the BJP's Lok Sabha poll campaign in Kalaburagi on Saturday | PTI

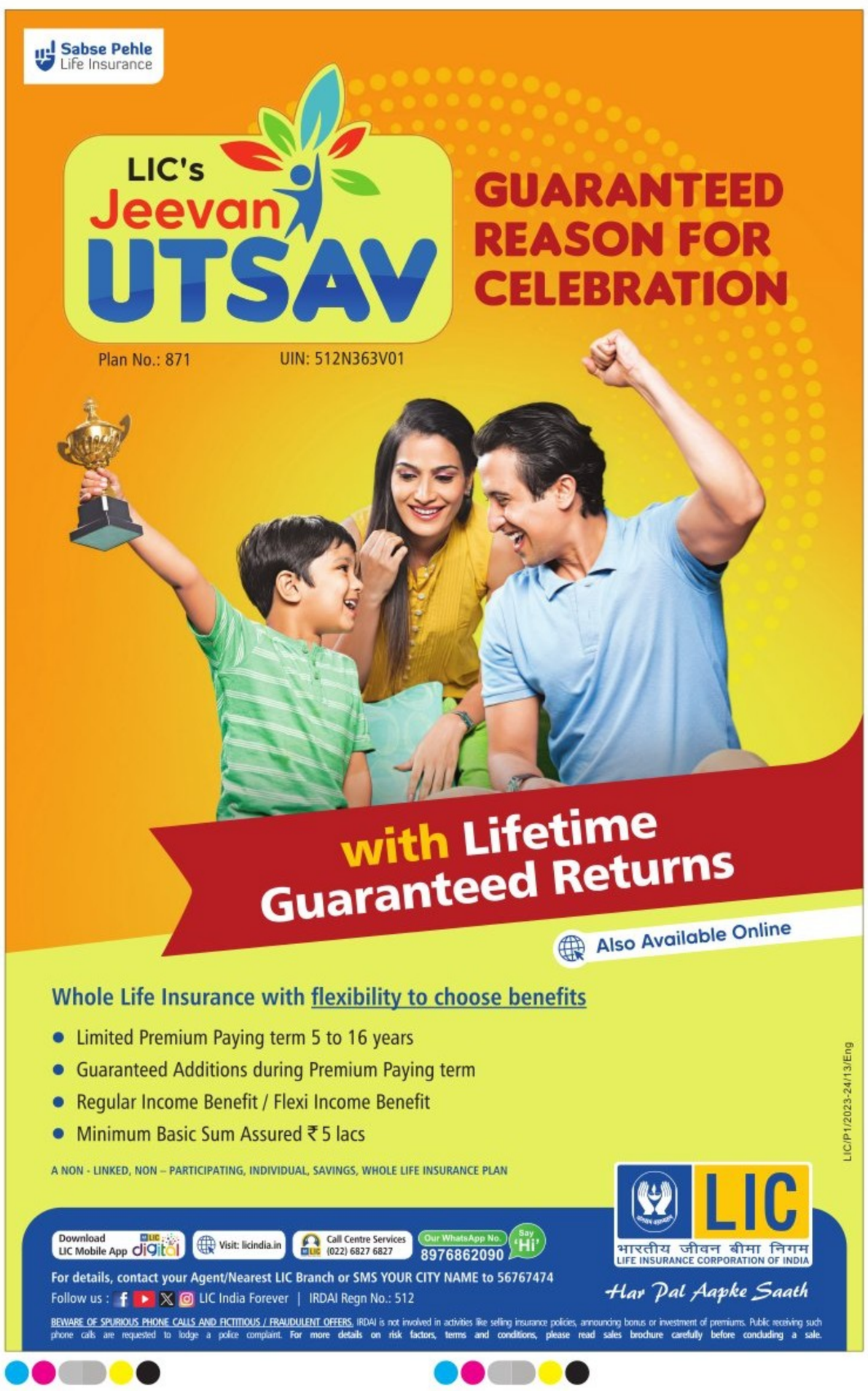
EXPRESS READ

7th Pay Commission bats for 27.5% hike in basic salary

Bengaluru: The 7th Pay Commission has recommended a 27.5% hike in the basic salary of state government employees, CM Siddaramaiah said on Saturday. The government will peruse the report and take appropriate decisions, the CM said after receiving the report | P8

Lakshya Sen signs off with creditable semifinal finish

Birmingham: Shuttler Lakshya Sen missed his date with history after stumbling to a three-game loss against Indonesia's Jonatan Christie in the semifinals of the All England Championships here on Saturday, prolonging India's long wait for the coveted trophy | P17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ALMANAC TODAY

Sunday: 17/03/2024 • Year: Shobhakruta • Ayana: Uttharayana
Ritu: Sishira • Masa: Phalguna • Paksha: Sukla • Tithi: Ashtami 2.08 am
Nakshatra: Mrigashira 9.01 pm • Moon in Kataka Rashi • Rahukaala: 04:30 pm to 06:00pm
Gulikakala: 03:00 pm to 04:30 pm • Yamaganda: 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm

WEATHER

MIN 21°C | MAX 34°C

FORECAST Sunny

Sunrise 06.25 am
Sunset 06.30 pm
Moonrise 12.02 pm
Moonset 12.32 am

CONTINUING THE ACT...

Forty-six-year-old Rafique Shaikh, the man behind Great Rajkamal Circus, is striving to keep the culture alive and wants laws amended to help the circus industry continue to entertain people

FIROZ ROZINDAR @ Vijayapura

CIRCUS — the six-letter word has enthralled generations of Indians for centuries. Much before the invasion of Shorts and Reels, and even before television, circuses were an important source of entertainment for people.

Holding some popcorn and popsicles, a 60-minute show with acrobats jumping off ropes and animals dancing to the tunes of the ringmaster took us to a different world. From the roar of the lions to the screech of monkeys, for many of us, circuses were our first encounter with wild animals.

But now, these images are just part of our memories. Competition from other forms of entertainment, coupled with laws banning the use of wild animals, and finally Covid, almost killed the circus industry in the country. But there is some silver lining, with circuses seeing a revival and a few enthusiasts still running the show.

One such is 46-year-old Rafique Shaikh, who runs Great Rajkamal Circus.

Having grown up watching the circus first managed by his grandfather and then his father, Shaikh is a witness to numerous changes in the industry. "You can call it a giant family, or our small world. It is everything for us," Shaikh says with a smile.

Shaikh was so attached to the circus that he quit his job in the Railways to come back to manage his circus company. "After joining the Railways, I realised how much I missed circus, which is my family. I quit Railways to continue my tryst with the circus, which for me is a tradition," he adds.

Great Rajkamal Circus at present has around 90 employees. "Though I am the present owner, neither my father nor I ever treated our artistes and staff as mere workers. They are like my family. The bonding remains strong, primarily because we spend months together in one place. We eat together, celebrate together and take care of each other," he says.

'A family, a world'

Suresh, who works at the circus, is now 56 years old. Hailing from Kerala, he has been associated with the circus for nearly three decades and has no plans of hanging up his boots anytime soon. "Circus has given me everything. I will stay with it as long as I can render my service," he says with pride.

Naobison Thounaojam, a 28-year-old acrobat from Manipur, has been with the circus for two years. From Imphal, he says, "It is not merely a circus, but a tradition that is not only preserving a culture but also providing livelihoods to a number of people for generations."

Recently married, Thounaojam says the circus gives him enough salary to take care of his expenses and send money back to his family in Manipur. He is part of an eight-member team, including five girls, from Manipur, performing at the circus.

Shaikh says the circus is a world in itself with its own barbers, mechanics, cooks, and tailors. "They travel with us wherever we move," he adds. He is from Solapur in Maharashtra, but his employees come from all over the country — from Kerala to Manipur to Gujarat. "Some artistes and staff have been associated with us for over three decades, like Suresh. They joined us during my father's time," he says.

Acrobats perform jaw-dropping acts and gravity-defying maneuvers (left) at the Great Rajkamal Circus (above) | EXPRESS

No charm behind the curtains

Though it is glitter, poise and adventure for the outside world, life behind the curtains is not easy for the artistes. "Till three decades ago, India was home to nearly 90 circuses. Almost all of them were profitable. But government policies, over the years, like banning animals and strict orders on labour, among others, dealt a severe blow to the industry," rues Shaikh.

"What is disheartening is that the government banned using even domestic and pet animals. But the same animals are allowed to be used in other public events. Horses are used in weddings, bulls in traditional races, dogs are a man's favourite pet and camels are used for various professional and domestic work. But the same animals cannot be used in a circus. The government should allow us to use at least domestic animals," Shaikh says.

He also cannot understand why children should not be allowed to perform in the circus, while they are featured in movies and live shows as child artistes. "When children acting in films are treated as artistes, why is the same yardstick not applied to children performing in circuses," he wonders.

Countries, like Russia, have opened academies to teach acrobatics to children. "Many such performers are later picked to participate in gymnastics at international events, like the Olympics. The reason why small children are picked for acrobatics is that it is easier to train them at a younger age as their bones and muscles are flexible. Trained at that age, they become perfect contortionists, gymnasts and acrobats. Russia considers such children as artistes and not child labourers. But in India, the story is entirely different. Here, a boy working at a garage or a circus is bracketed as a child labourer without understanding the fundamental difference," Shaikh rues.

The government should bring necessary changes in child labour laws to differentiate between an artiste and a labourer, he says.

Circus owners are ready to adhere to strict guidelines when allowing children to perform, he says. "The government is free to conduct surprise visits or check the living and working conditions. If children complain of any ill-treatment, the authorities are free to take legal action against the owners. But the government should first come up with amendments to labour laws to allow children to perform with riders," he says.

Without such changes, circuses will not get good artistes. The circus industry is on a ventilator today and it won't take much time before the culture breathes its last, he concludes with dismay.

After joining the Railways, I realised how much I missed circus, which is my family. I quit Railways to continue my tryst with the circus, which for me is a tradition – Rafique Shaikh

Chefs craft the 123-ft dosa using MTR's signature red rice dosa batter, as part of the food brand's 100-year celebrations, in Bengaluru on Saturday | EXPRESS

MTR celebrates 100 years with 123-ft dosa

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

AS part of MTR's 100-year celebrations, 60 chefs from the renowned food brand and Lorman Kitchen Equipments, gathered at the MTR factory in Bommasandra to create a record-breaking mega dosa on Saturday.

Measuring an impressive 123 feet, the culinary feat, crafted using MTR's signature red rice dosa batter, with a team of 75 experienced and aspiring chefs officially set a new world record for the longest dosa. With this, Lorman and MTR broke the previous world record for the longest dosa, which measured 54 feet.

"Dosa has been an integral part of MTR's legacy since its inception and remains one of our most cherished products. From its humble South Indian origins, dosa has transcended boundaries to become a beloved dish worldwide. Our endeavour to set a world record with dosa reflects its universal appeal, resonating with consumers of all ages," MTR Chief Executive Officer Sunay Bhasin said.

Lorman Kitchen Equipments Managing Director Chandra Mouli said, "With the creation of the world's longest induction hot-plate (tawa), we demonstrate that sustainable cooking can extend to larger cooking communities. This achievement underscores the efficiency, sustainability, and eco-friendliness of induction-based cooking equipment, while also fostering a safer ecosystem for chefs."

BBMP shuts mall over tax dues, opens after court order

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE BBMP on Saturday sealed the Mantri Square mall in Malleswaram over pending tax arrears to the tune of Rs 32 crore. However, the mall authorities opened the premises, following court directions to the Palike and the police to open the lock on the gates and pull back personnel and marshalls.

The officials, along with marshalls and police, arrived at the mall at 10 am and shut the main entrance. The revenue officials said that repeated reminders and extensions were given to Mantri Square. "The mall was given the option of 'one-time settlement' of its outstanding dues, however, it reportedly made no attempts to clear the dues, and hence, stringent action was taken," said a senior official from the West Zone.

The mall was shut on December 19 last year for similar reasons, as it failed to clear Rs 51 crore in tax, but resumed operations subsequently. However, the mall authorities claim that there was favourable court order pronounced regarding Mantri Square earlier, and since the officials had closed the facility in the morning, inconveniencing around 200 outlets and visitors, their action amounts to contempt.

Time to make water 'smart' to address woes

PURAN CHOUDHARY @ Bengaluru

FROM our watches, spectacles, phones, TVs, to our homes getting smarter, it's time our water got smarter, too. Studies show digitizing water data is the only way forward — using Internet of Things (IoT), blockchain technology, data analytics and artificial intelligence — to provide lasting solutions by being instrumental in smart water management. These methods can generate low-cost, real-time data shared across departments to help better policy-making and integrate efforts for better water management.

Water management can be achieved at the block level by installing smart meters to measure demand and supply. Right sensors in pipelines will help consumers and authorities identify locations where water leaks occur. Machine learning can help predict water needs and better understand consumption patterns, preempt dangers during summer, and suggest innovative solutions. There is no doubt there is data available on water, but the challenge is to turn raw data into insight.

Two researchers from the Institute of Management, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), anticipating the 'Zero Water Day' back in 2019, released a research paper on 'Harnessing technology for mitigating water woes in Bengaluru', revealing that technologies could lengthen the lives of water assets, reduce water leaks, and lower water expenditure and loss.

Swapnil Shrivastava, co-founder of Uravu Labs — which makes high-quality drinking water through Atmospheric Water Generation (AWG), also called 'air water harvesting', using renewable energy sources — said what is lacking in most cities is good water infrastructure, which needs an immediate overhaul from ancient systems. He explained that if wastewater can be used optimally, it would take at least 50-60% burden off freshwater.

He said today the technology for AWG is in a nascent stage, and it's the only company in Asia that has scaled the production to 3,000 litres of water every day from air. "At a city level, we need millions of litres per day, but this is one of the potential solutions and will take time to scale, in which there would be no transportation, and water could be made on-site," he said.

The city generates 16 tmcft of treated water, which is another potential solution. According to Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB), water demand per person in the city is estimated at 150 to 200 lpcd (litres per capita per day) and is constantly growing.

Inayathulla M, Professor in Civil Engineering and Director, Water Institute, University of Visvesvaraya College of Engineering (UVCE), Bangalore University, said decentralization of water management technology is the need of the hour. "The current situation in the city can be taken as a warning for years to come, and these indicators need the right stimulation to be solved," he said.

The focus needs to shift from Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) to clearing stormwater drainage before it meets the water sources. Banking on treated wastewater to save fresh potable water is the next best option, he added.

Wastewater can be used by adopting two simple methods: Reclaiming wastewater and using greywater. Reclaimed wastewater is that which is discharged from buildings and industries which can be treated at wastewater treatment facilities and then reused in applications such as irrigation and industrial processes. Greywater (used water from sinks, showers, baths, washing machines or dishwashers) can be treated and used in a decentralized manner in residential and commercial areas. Greywater can be diverted and given basic treatment to be reused to flush toilets and urinals, irrigate landscapes, and supply to ornamental ponds.

A thirsty school boy fills a pot with water from a tap, at a time when Bengaluru is suffering from acute water shortage, in Bangarappa Nagar | ALLEN EGENUSE J

AWARD FOR RAINWATER HARVESTING

In a bid to encourage apartment complexes, factories, commercial complexes and shops to install rainwater harvesting systems on site, the BWSSB has instituted a 'Green Star' award. BWSSB Chairman Ramprasat Manohar mentioned this at a meeting organised by Bengaluru Apartment Federation. He also said that so far, 1,700 private water tankers have registered with BWSSB. A prescribed sticker will be affixed on these tankers. A special number will be given, on which the rate list and telephone number for complaints will be mentioned. On treated water from apartment complexes being supplied to others, he said, a circular will be officially issued from April 1.

Irrigated fields on forest fringes attracting gaurs

BOSKY KHANNA @ Bengaluru

AS forest patches have turned brown because of harsh summer, around 40 per cent of water holes at the Bannerghatta National Park (BNP), driving herbivores to well-irrigated, green farm lands on forest fringes.

This year, local residents around BNP are reporting a rise in cases of gaurs (Indian bisons) raiding their fields, especially where mulberry and vegetables are grown. This is a unique phenomenon, as usually gaurs are shy and avoid human presence when compared to elephants.

"Irrigation pumpsets are running constantly at farms. These green fields outside forests are attracting herbivores, especially gaurs. Such cases started a month-and-a-half ago, but now there has been a rise. No complaints of spotted or sambar deer raiding crops have been reported," a BNP official said.

Though Forest, Environment and Ecology Minister Eshwar Khandre has directed forest staffers across Karnataka to fill all waterholes within forests and if needed to drill borewells or tubewells, little has been done so far. The remaining 60 per cent of water holes in BNP have medium or low levels of water. "Animals are more intelligent than humans in searching for water. Cases of elephants raiding farms have come down as they have migrated to places where there are sufficient sources of water. But gaurs and other herbivores that do not migrate long distances are wandering about and entering human habitations," the official added.

Candidates can spend ₹95 lakh as election expenses: Girinath

Bengaluru-wise voter details

PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY	MALE	FEMALE	OTHERS	TOTAL	POLLING STATIONS
Bengaluru North	16,29,089	15,44,415	594	31,74,098	2,911
Bengaluru Central	12,36,897	11,61,548	465	23,98,910	2,125
Bengaluru South	11,95,285	11,21,788	399	23,17,472	2,118
Total	40,61,271	38,27,751	1,458	78,90,480	7,154

(BENGALURU RURAL, INCLUDING RAJARAJESHWARI NAGAR, CHIKKABALLAPUR AND ANEKAL AND YELAHANAKA, HAS 1,828 POLLING BOOTHS)

ENS @ Bengaluru

THE District Election Officer and BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Girinath instructed officials to apprise political representatives about the information received from the Election Commission regularly, with the Lok Sabha election fast-approaching.

Addressing a meeting on Saturday, Girinath said every candidate should open and maintain a separate bank account for election expenses, at least one day before filing nomination papers. He also mandated that the information should be provided to the election officials. He added that candidates can spend Rs 95 lakh as election expenses.

Expenses incurred before a candidate files nomination papers are considered as expenses of parties. He said that the expenses incurred from the time of submission of nomination papers till the date of counting of votes are considered as expenses of the candidate. Candidates have been told to provide details in three forms, including daily register, cash register and bank register from the Election Offices, and the calculation of election expenses should be entered in these registers. He also said that vouchers, bills and other documents related to each expenditure should be maintained thoroughly. "Campaign meetings and rallies held with star campaigners are campaigned on behalf of the candidate and if the candidate shares the platform, the full cost will be considered as the cost of the candidate," he said.

A group of youth killed a 29-year-old resident of Camp area in Belagavi in broad daylight on Thursday. According to the police, Ganesh Kamble, the deceased, was asleep at his home at 3.30 pm when the assailants barged in and beat him to death with a log. One of the killers was caught by locals and handed over to the police

FIRST SECTION OF SUBURBAN RAIL BY DEC '25

U-girder, which reduces construction time, will be used for first time in country for project: Min

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE first section of the Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project (BSRP), spanning a stretch of 7.4 km between Chikkabanawara and Yeshvanthpur will be commissioned by December 2025, said Infrastructure Development Minister MB Patil.

Patil visited the casting yard at Gollahalli near Devanahalli on Saturday to view the country's first-ever 100-ft (31m) U-girder, and said, "The 31m U-girder, which has been claimed as a technological feat, will be used for the first time in the country in the BSRP. So far, the 28m U-girder has been used for Metro railway projects. This relatively new and innovative concept in bridge deck design will reduce construction time, enhance aesthetics, add durability, and is also economical," he added.

For the first time, these girders will be used to construct a viaduct (elevated section) of around 8 km from Hebbal to Yeshvantpur, which is a part of the 'Mallige' line or Corridor 2 of BSRP and this requires about 450 girders. The L&T yard at Gollahalli also casts I-girders and Pier Caps and respectively 323 and 283 of them will be used along the above stretch.

Sharing details on the progress of the BSRP work, Patil said so far, about 20% of the permanent work has been completed. Of the total 120.44 acres of land required for Corridor 2 (Chikkabanawara to Benniganahalli), 119.18 acres have been acquired (98.5% of the land).

Work related to Corridor 2 (Baiyappanahalli-Chikkabanavara) has been progressing well, with efforts to address challenges such as encroachments and coordination with multiple stakeholders for utilities and land acquisition. Discussions are also ongoing with various stakeholders such as BBMP, BDA, BWSSB, BESCOM, BSNL, and private telephone agencies for utilities shifting/diversions and land acquisition, he said.

Along the C3 stretch (Kengeri to Whitefield), there is no hurdle for works from Kengeri to Contonment. However, there are concerns of land issues between Cantonment to Whitefield. Whether, elevated corridor would be ideal on the strech or should we look for other alternatives will be discussed with the Railways, Patil explained.

BBMP marshals evict street vendors in Jayanagar | EXPRESS

'Eviction of vendors violates HC order'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

ACTIVISTS on Saturday said BBMP evicted 40 vendors, alleging that they had set up shops in a place where encroachments were cleared in November 2023. The drive violated a high court order, they said.

Activist Vinay Srinivasa from the Federation of Street Vendors Associations said, "On behalf of street vendors from Jayanagar 4th Block, a writ petition was filed in the High Court, which directed the police and Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike not to harass 78 petitioners. Despite that, the BBMP and police are evicting the vendors, which amounts to contempt of court."

The vendors put up shops from 8 am till noon and again from 7 pm to 10 pm. "But BBMP marshals chase these vendors. They say they have a high court order, but refuse to show it. When we say their action is contempt of court, they tell us to file a contempt petition," he said.

A senior official from the BBMP South Zone said that in November, the BBMP, with the help of police, had cleared encroachments on the premises of Jayanagar complex, based on High Court directions. But the vendors are trying to put up shops again."Vendors have been asked to vacate as it is a public space. We will find a place and notify them. We will allow them to conduct their business and have already issued identity cards to them," he added.

Order under Sec 70 of Chit Act final: HC

ENS @Bengaluru

THE High Court has ruled that it cannot examine under Article 226 of the Constitution the order passed by the Joint Registrar of Chits under Section 70 of the Chit Funds Act, 1982. The court said only one appeal provided in the statute against the order passed under Section 69 of the Act and hence any order passed under Section 70 of the Act shall be final.

Justice M I Arun passed the order while dismissing the petition filed by M/s Margadarshi Chits (K) Private Limited questioning the order passed by the Joint Registrar of Chits, Ballari, in the appeal filed under Section 70 of the Act.

H Srinivas Reddy of Ballari, subscribed to a chit issued by Margadarshi. As he had not paid the money, Margadarshi initiated proceedings before the Deputy Registrar of Chits, which passed the order holding that Reddy is liable to pay Rs 1.74 lakh with costs and interest. Reddy filed an appeal under Section 70 of the Act before the Joint Registrar of Chits. This was allowed. Against this order, the Margadarshi moved the high court.

BJP using AI to reach masses

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

THE BJP leader said it was the beginning and was done on a pilot basis for a limited audience.

Already, the party social media and communication teams are extensively using AI to reach a large number of people. "We are selecting a few clippings of Modi and other party leaders, who speak in other languages. Using AI, we give the voiceover in Kannada to the same video. The clips are being used on our social media handles," said sources.

BJP in Karnataka has 32,835 Whatsapp groups and 3.58 lakh people in its broadcast list. "We share these AI-enabled videos that have speeches in Kannada (voiceover and text) on Whatsapp groups and also broadcast them. Within seconds, we reach these many people, who in turn start sharing them in other groups. This way, we can reach speeches of Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath or any other leader, who speak in non-Kannada languages, to Kannada-speaking people," sources said.

EXPRESS READ

Police nab 2 for stealing cane-crushing machine

Talaghattapura police have arrested two men for allegedly stealing a sugarcane-crushing machine and a motor set near Anjanapura Lake. On March 2, Syed Nafeez, a sugarcane juice seller, reported to the police that his whole cart went missing from the spot near the lake. Based on Nafeez's complaint, police set up a special team to nab the accused. The sugarcane cart and the motor costs over Rs 1 lakh. During investingation, police found that the cart was stolen on March 1 by Vijaykumar (29) and Mansoor Pasha (27). The cart has been recovered. **ENS**

Bitcoin scam: CID offers reward for info on DySP

Bengaluru: The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) has offered a reward for any information leading to the custody of DySP Sridhar K Pujar, who is wanted in the Bitcoin scam. "The details of the informant will be kept confidential," a notice from the CID stated. Recently, the Vidhana Soudha police registered a fresh FIR against the senior officer under IPC sections 307 (attempt to murder), 332 (voluntarily causing hurt to deter public servant from his duty), along with other sections of the IPC after Pujar, attached to the Internal Security Division, allegedly rammed his car into a bike on which two police staffers had come to pick him up, and sped away. The incident took place near the Coffee Board Junction on Ambedkar Veedhi on February 27. **ENS**

Former electrical inspector gets 3 years RI

The Lokayukta Special Court sentenced Sadananda K V, retired Deputy Chief Electrical Inspector, to undergo rigorous imprisonment for three years and pay a fine of Rs 1.50 lakh in a graft case. Judge K M Radhakrishna passed the order sentencing Sadananda, who was trapped accepting Rs 24,000 bribe from a contractor to give approval for an electricity connection at Konena Agrahara in the city in 2016. The then Anti Corruption Bureau had filed the chargesheet against the accused. **ENS**

KSRTC releases Rs 84 cr for DA, gratuity

Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) released Rs 84 crore towards DA arrears, encashment of leave and gratuity of its employees, including those who have retired. The bus corporation on Saturday said that it has released Rs 24 crore towards encashment of leave for 2022-23. Similarly, an amount of Rs 54 crore has been released towards payment of DA due from July 2022 to November 2022, January 2023 to October 2023. An amount of Rs 6 crores towards payment of gratuity to retired employees during January-2024 has been released. **ENS**

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PART II—Section 3—Sub-section (ii)
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MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
NOTIFICATION
New Delhi, the 15th March, 2024

S.O. 1406(E).—Whereas by the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, 505(E) Dated:05/02/2024 , published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Subsection (ii) issued under sub-section (1) of section 3A of the National Highway Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government declared its intention to acquire the land specified in the Schedule annexed to the said notification for building (widening/two lane with paved shoulder/four laning etc.,), Maintenance, management and operation of NH169 (Old NH13) in the stretch of land from Km. 0.00 to Km. 2.48 (Shivamogga-Mangalore Section) in the district of SHIVAMOGGA in the state of KARNATAKA;

And whereas the substance of the said notification has been published in "Vijaya Karnataka" and "The Hindu" both dated 26-01-2024; under sub-section (3) of section 3A of the said Act;

And whereas the Competent Authority has received objections filed under Section 3-C, considered and settled the same appropriately;

And whereas, in pursuance of sub-section (1) of section 3D of the said Act, the competent authority has submitted its report to the Central Government;

Now, therefore, upon receipt of the said report of the competent authority and in exercise of the powers conferred by the sub-section (1) of section 3D of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that the land specified in the said Schedule should be acquired for the aforesaid purpose;

And further, in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3D of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that on publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, the land specified in the said Schedule shall vest absolutely in the Central Government, free from all encumbrances.

SCHEDULE : Brief Description of the land to be acquired with or without structures falling within the stretch of land from Km 0.00 to Km2.480(Shivamogga - Mangalore section) of NH169(Old NH13) in the state of KARNATAKA.

State: KARNATAKA			District: SHIVAMOGGA		
S.No.	Survey / Plot Number	Type of Land	Nature of Land	Area (in Hectares)	Name of Land Owner/Interested Person
1	2	3	4	5	6
Taluk: Shivamogga					
Village: Harakere					
1	2	Private	Dry	0.007416	D S Sharadamma com Shekharappa
2	21	Common (Private/ Government)	Dry	0.00481	T C maheshappa bin T D chennappa
3	216	Private	Dry	0.038383	Cattle Mufattu
4	217	Private	Dry	0.009677	C.S. Bhramaramba co R.S. Rangaswamy, R.S. Manjula bin R.S.Ranagaswamy, R.S. Vijayalakshmi bin R.S.Rangaswamy, R.S.Prasanna bin R.S.Rangaswamy, R.S. Ravishankar bin R.S. Rangaswamy, All Joint
5	220	Common (Private/ Government)	Dry	0.015458	C.S. Bhramaramba co R.S. Rangaswamy, R.S. Manjula bin R.S.Ranagaswamy, R.S. Vijayalakshmi bin R.S.Rangaswamy,R.S.Prasanna bin R.S.Rangaswamy, R.S. Ravishankar bin R.S.Rangaswamy,
6	228	Common (Private/Government)	Dry	0.00295	Syed Fazluk bin Mir Ismail, Syed Ahmed bin Mir Ismail
7	229	Private	Dry	0.004765	Sangamesh Parappa gadaga bin Parappa S Gadaga, Sangamesh Parappa gadaga bin Parappa S Gadaga
8	231	Private	Dry	0.020418	Sangamesh Parappa gadaga bin Parappa S Gadaga, Sangamesh Parappa gadaga bin Parappa S Gadaga
9	232	Common (Private/Government)	Dry	0.021378	S.N. Manjappa bin K. Nagaraj
10	235	Common (Private/Government)	Dry	0.024743	D S Sharadamma com Shekharappa
11	236	Private	Dry	0.02081	SG Sadashiva bin late SR Govindegowda
Village: Millaghatta					
12	64	Private	Dry	0.032864	Khurshiddunnisa com Iliyas Ahmed, Noorunnisa com Baba Khanam, Hajarabi com Imam sab, K.H. Imam bin Husainur, Abdul Hafilsab bin Syed budensab, Mallarkhan com Abdul sharif and remaining as per RTC, C.Malleshappa bin Channabasappa Amin, Devikaraiah Vagairaru, K.Yallappa bin Hanumanthappa, Sarswathamma com Puttaiah, Aminabi com K.A. Karim, Fathimabi com P.R.Ajabd byari, A.S.Shamshuddin, Mohammad Usman, Mohammad Sharif, Ishakh Seth yane Inayath Ibrahim Mohammed Seth Abdul Aziz bin Abdul Sattar, Mubina bai com Fazalur
Village: Mandli					
13	16	Private	Dry	8.57E-05	D.G. Benkappa bin D.G. Nanjappa
14	244	Common (Private/Government)	Dry	0.005058	Mohammed Abdul Sab bin Ganni Sab Hafizullaha bin Syed Gouse Abdul Basheer bin Abdul Aziz Mohammad Gouse peer bin Abdul Rehaman Syed Nazeer bin Syed zahoor Mahabulla Shareef and other khata holders
15	245	Common (Private/Government)	Dry	0.010447	Azmathunnisa bin Abdul Ameer Sab T Krishanamurthy bin P Tulasidas Ayeesha Begum H Venkatesha Rao bin T Krishnappaiah Aleemmabi com R M Rehamathulla Khan Raziv Khan bin Hameed Khan Indramma com Parameshwarappa Beerappa bin Kamalappa Mohammad Mahama bin Mohammad Ismail Shaikh Sahood Sab Khan Avisab Mohammad Ismail bin Mohammad Bakar Sab
16	257	Common (Private/Government)	Dry	0.011686	Karabu Gundu Topu
			Total	0.2309487	

[F. No. RW/NH/169/KNT/km 0.00-2.48/3D]
ABHAY JAIN, Dy. Secy.

The state government has appointed noted economist Prof Govinda Rao as chairman of the commission set up to study regional imbalance in the state and identify a comprehensive composite development index. The notification issued by the government on Saturday stated that the commission was constituted to look into regional imbalance based on available data with the government as Dr DM Nanjundappa's report is 22 years old

'INTEGRATED WATER MGMT NEEDED TO AVOID CRISIS'

EXPRESS Dialogues

AS Bengaluru is reeling under a severe water crisis and the government is looking at Mekedatu or drilling of more borewells as solutions, noted water conservation expert **Vishwanath Srikantaiah**, in conversation with The New Sunday Express, said there is enough water, but only if it is properly managed. The founder of Rainwater Club, Director of Biome Environmental Solutions and Trustee of Biome Environmental Trust said there is an immediate need for a wastewater policy and implementation of Jala Samvardana Yojana Sangha 2.0, besides the need for an integrated water management system.

How severe is water crisis?
Those who have Cauvery water connection — which is 1.1 million — there is no real crisis. The Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) pumps 1,470 million litres per day (MLD). At least 25-30% of the population is dependent on groundwater, either through their own borewells or through water tankers. For them, there is a limited amount of crisis. Especially in the periphery of the city, there has been a crisis over the last three months.

How bad is the crisis in areas outside Bengaluru?
It is very severe. But with the treated wastewater going to Kolar and Chikkaballapur, the groundwater table is high and there is no crisis. In other places, the drought and water crises are severe.

Will Bengaluru go the Cape Town way?
What happened in Cape Town was that the reservoir supplying water to the city started depleting and going dry. But Bengaluru is dependent on four reservoirs. Two of them — KRS and Kabini — directly supply water. There is a backup with Hemavathi and Harangi. The Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre (KSNDMC) says there is about 43 TMC feet of water. The dams will not go dry till July. Bengaluru needs about 10.8 TMCft of water. There is enough and more water in the reservoir if water is used judiciously. We will not become a Cape Town. But, for parts dependent on groundwater, we will have to find solutions quickly.

What led Bengaluru to this?
One of the reasons why there is a crisis in eastern and south-eastern parts of the city is because Bellandur and Varthur have been drained of water and have not been desilted over the last five years. The Cauvery 5th Stage, which will supply 775 MLD, has been delayed by a year. If the lakes had been desilted on time and filled with rain or treated wastewater, there would not have been a crisis. This is the perfect storm for Bengaluru.

If the government was serious about rain water harvesting (RWH), would this problem be there?
It would have solved a part of the problem. It is important that citizens get involved in RWH. There are about 1.8 million RWH structures, some of which are dysfunctional. There should be at least 10 million structures. The last rain came in November. There has been a long period of dryness.

How much do sewage treatment plants (STPs) help?
There were 36 STPs of BWSSB capable of treating around 1,440 MLD, but are receiving 1,059 MLD. BWSSB is investing Rs 1,600 crore in upgrading STPs. We need to negotiate a space where wastewater is also available for Bengaluru. We do not have a wastewater reuse policy but a wastewater treatment policy.

What is the status of traditional wells in Bengaluru?
Many wells had become dysfunctional. Thanks to traditional well diggers, they have been cleaned up, even community wells in Malleswaram, Basavanagudi, Basaveshwaranagar and other areas have been recharged with rainwater. Around 12,000 old wells in Bengaluru have been brought back to life. Well-diggers have dug up 2.5 lakh recharge pits at Cubbon Park, Lal Bagh and other parts of the city. This momentum should go up, even a million recharge pits are not enough for the city.

Have recharge pits shown satisfactory results in improving groundwater table?
Wherever there is a concentrated application of recharge wells, they have shown immediate results in that area. For example at Rail Wheel Factory and Indian Institute of Management. Wherever we identify sub-aquifers and recharge them rigorously, we can find immediate results and when it is done in a dispersed manner, results take time.

What are the precautionary measures we need to take now to avoid a water crisis from being repeated next year?
We have 36,000 lakes and tanks in Karnataka. There was a programme called Jala Samvardana Yojana Sangha (JSYS) with World Bank aid in 2008. With this 3,900 tanks were desilted, catchment areas and feeder channels cleaned and tank user groups formed. But now it's forgotten. There is a need for JSYS 2.0 now. For urban areas, more strategies are needed and one of them is to build capacities to understand groundwater and aquifers better, recharge them and then regulate groundwater. BWSSB does not have a hydro-geologist till now. Groundwater cells should be set up in all cities and towns and groundwater management plans should be drawn up, using funds available in Amrut 2.0. With the proper utilisation of groundwater and treated wastewater, we can drought-proof and climate-proof ourselves.

How bad is encroachment in Bengaluru lakes?
Terrible. Construction debris is being dumped. Builders are dumping soil and moving into lake areas. Despite attention from courts, lakes continue to be in a terrible shape.

Rain is poor and Cauvery catchment area is affected. How it will impact B'luru?
Reports from IISc and others have shown that forests and Cauvery catchment are on a steep decline. Without Cauvery, Bengaluru cannot survive. Bengaluru should worry about Cauvery catchment instead of being obsessed only with lakes and it is the city's responsibility. There is no River Basin Institution and a management plan.

What is your opinion on the Yettinahole project?
Yettinahole and Mekedatu are ecologically disastrous. The government has invested Rs 20,000 crore in Yettinahole and not a drop of water has come to us. We have to look at local waters and local protection.

The government says Mekedattu is the solution to address Bengaluru's water problems. Is it really so?
We have been allocated 284.75 TMCft by the Supreme Court. But the city is currently drawing 19 TMCft, 6.67% of Karnataka's allocation of Cauvery water. With additional 775 MLD coming in, we will take another 11 TMCft. Our deputy chief minister is saying another 6 TMCft is available. So its 30 TMCft, which is 11% of Karnataka's allocation. Water is pumped from Thorekadanahalli (or TK Halli) at 6 am and it comes to your house at 7.30 am. By 9am it is in the STPs. By 11.30am it's in Kolar. Bengaluru is just a pit stop for Cauvery water. Bengaluru also adds 600 MLD of groundwater to it which goes down as wastewater. The question to ask ourselves: Are we happy to send 2 crore litres per hectare for sugarcane or use it to support the slum dwellers for the whole year? There is enough and more water in Cauvery. If it is well managed, we do not need any future dams.

What can be done to create awareness among children on water conservation?
We can set up rainwater harvesting systems in schools. Give children a rain gauge and water quality testing kit. Students of Grades 6-8 with the help of teachers can check whether water is potable and how much rainfall occurs. It's a beautiful, elegant tool for water literacy and functional. This education programme should be launched at a mass level.

Has it been done anywhere, and how has it worked?
We are doing it in some schools. Eight years ago, at a school in Pavagada where fluoride content was high, children were asked to collect samples from 10 villages, because they would all come from those areas to the school. Collected water samples were mapped and tested for fluoride with the help of their teacher. The report was sent to the DC who in turn sent it to the government and asked for setting up RO (reverse osmosis) plants or do something for fluoride mitigation. This is the power of educating schoolchildren in a practical sense.

What about the private tanker mafia?
Private tankers are a construct of state failure. Operating tankers is like a market economy. If the prices of private water tankers have to be brought under control, the government should increase the supply of water with its own tankers, instead of capping prices of private tankers.

How can the water stress be reduced?
We don't have to worry too much. We will get around 2,270 MLD from Cauvery in the next three months. And 660 MLD from groundwater. We have 500 MLD rainwater and 2,000 MLD treated wastewater. Total is around 5,000 MLD. There is enough and more for a population of at least 40 million people. If it is managed well, we don't have to go far. But the only plan the government has is to ship water from Cauvery, Mekedattu, Linganamakki and Yettinaholle.

Will using TG Halli reservoir water help?
It will, definitely. Already a lot of money has been invested in setting up a 135 MLD STP. We have a 150 MLD plant at V-valley. If water from here is used to fill Arkavathi and allow it to flow, put a wetland and let it cascade, adding the natural rain that comes, then we have an additional 135 MLD along with Cauvery water. A Singaporean company had prepared a DPR. But then it takes one bureaucrat or one minister to say "I don't like this idea". We have a report, we just need to execute it.

Where is the mismanagement by BWSSB, why are we discussing this and why has the City reached this stage?
The government has under-invested in BWSSB consistently. When Vidya Shankar was chairman, they were planning to take World Bank assistance and studied how many employees are needed per 1,000 connections, etc. They put a cap on recruitment. But that was when Bengaluru was fast exploding. That was when they needed good engineers to be able to plan holistically. They do not have hydrogeologists. So, groundwater does not exist for BWSSB. There is no social development unit. So slums don't exist for BWSSB. There is a need for a robust institution with good chief officers. There is no financial strength, they depend on Japan International Cooperation Agency to invest.

So who should be held accountable then?
Some call BWSSB as "Cauvery Water Supply and Sewerage Board" and not "Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board". Lakes are under BBMP, groundwater is managed by Groundwater Authority, Wastewater by Minor Irrigation Department. Where is the total institutional plan for water for the City? The government needs to strengthen the BWSSB. As it is, it does not have the required wherewithal to deal with the situation. That is my opinion.

Can you give us a fair outline of how an integrated system can be created?
A very quick and easy solution is to create a groundwater cell and have human resources. It must have competent hydrologists who are able to map a proper groundwater management plan. Bring all groundwater regulations, refilling, use and price into play. Create a wastewater reuse cell where you have specialists who know how the 59 STPs treatments have to operate and with what quality and reliability and how they will be reused for Bengaluru first and then the other districts later. If you do these two things properly to start with, then it will be alright. It is not much and it will need just 20 people to start to do this.

What about the cost at which water is supplied? Should it be hiked?
The proposal has been pending before the government for three years. The BWSSB calculation says it takes Rs 42 to get 1 kilo litre of water to us. But if operations and maintenance cost, capital cost, debt servicing and sinking fund is added it is Rs 95 per kilo litre. A domestic house pays Rs 7 per kilolitre for the first slab, Rs 11 per kilolitre for the second, and if above 20,000 litres there is a subsidy of Rs 1,650 per month. The cost to collect water and sent to STPs for treatment is not even discussed.

What are the challenges to desilt a reservoir? If you look at Krishna or Cauvery, the capacity has come down due to silt accumulation.
Lots of studies have been done. In fact, CWC has a report. In reservoir design, a dead storage can be created. If that is crossed, then it is a worry. The silt is somewhere above the sluice gate. Some reservoirs are exceeding the silt load. There is a need to figure out how to desilt reservoirs. One way is to push it down the river because the delta and rivers need silt.

The government wants to drill more borewells and tubewells to give us water. Is it the right thing to do?
That is the optics of crisis management. If the groundwater table has collapsed, the borewell you drill will not get water. If the borewell gets water, it will deprive the surrounding borewells of water. The net gain for the community is zero.

Then what is the way?
The way to go is to make sure the aquifers are filled so that the existing borewells have water. The government says there are 13,000 borewells of which 6,900 are dry. There are 5 lakh borewells in private hands. We are not talking about how many of them are dry.

Will a good monsoon improve percolation or do we have to do rainwater harvesting on a large scale?
We have to do RWH harvesting at a large scale. We have to make sure that the ridge lines and every apartment building pushes down the water. We have to desilt our lakes and keep them fresh for rainwater.

How many monsoons do we need for good percolation?
There is so much deficit that the first few rains will only be absorbed by the top soil for it to remain moist. We need 100 mm of continuous rainfall for two to three days for that.

But that will flood B'luru!
Floods are localised. Water clogging, bad roads and others will lead to water-logging, not flooding. The solution to flooding is RWH. The manual says every square meter of area collects 60 litres of water. So if it's followed, there will be no floods. Excess water on roads has to go to lakes for which the government needs to invest and ensure sewage does not enter stormwater drains. To avoid floods, the government needs to invest in a sewage network.

What is your message?
Use water judiciously. Be mindful of water, and share it with others. Put aerators in taps. Push the state to get its responsibility. We should hold elected representative accountable.

Guarantees vs guarantees: Not easy contest for any party

WITH the Election Commission of India [ECI] announcing the dates for the Lok Sabha polls, the die has been cast for the election of "Congress's Guarantees" versus "Modi ki Guarantees". Amid the severe drought, drinking water crisis and rising mercury levels, the voters will be subjected to a deluge of assurances by all sides in the coming weeks.

The BJP appears to have a head start in Karnataka. However, the party in Karnataka is facing far too many internal issues after it took a calculated risk in candidates' selection. Anger has erupted among its leaders and cadres in several constituencies, prompting the senior leaders to get into a damage control mode even as it braces for a tough contest with Congress.

Former Dy CM KS Eshwarappa has decided to contest as an independent candidate from Shivamogga; former minister JC Madhu Swamy refused to campaign for the party in Tumakuru; local leaders openly expressed their ire against the candidate in Davanagere; and Koppal MP's supporters threw stones at the party office. Chamrajnagar MP Srinivas Prasad's son-in-law, who was a BJP ticket aspirant, is cosying up to Congress leaders..... It's a long list.

However, hardly any of them seem to have great damage potential. Even Eshwarappa, who is miffed over his son not getting the ticket to contest from the Haveri LS seat, is a tall leader in the party, but his damage potential is limited. He remains loyal to the party and its ideology. He has never switched sides in his political career spanning over four decades. But, to his disadvantage, his numerically strong Kuruba community across Karnataka seems to be solidly backing Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. In 2023, the BJP denied a ticket to Eshwarappa to contest assembly polls and now he is striving to provide a political platform for his son.

Party insiders hope things will change once electioneering picks up pace.

The BJP has already changed gears with a blitzkrieg campaign by the PM in AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge's home district Kalaburagi. It was his first election rally in Karnataka. Modi listed out his government's achievements and "Modi ki Guarantees". He lashed out at Congress and accused it of using Karnataka as a "family ATM". Interestingly, he was addressing the rally in Kalaburagi exactly at the same time when the ECI was announcing the schedule for the elections.

Hours before the PM's rally in his hometown, Kharge announced Congress' "Shramik Nyay" and "Hissedari Nyay" guarantees in Bengaluru. While those are the assurances for the 2024 LS polls, in Karnataka, the party is banking mainly on the ongoing implementation of its five guarantee schemes. In the last few days, CM Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar have been addressing a series of conventions of beneficiaries of the government's flagship schemes. Such conventions are being held in all districts and taluks.

Congress seems to be trying to emulate the UP model when the 'labharthi' (beneficiary) factor emerged as a new block in the 2022 assembly polls.

The Congress perceives the guarantees as a game-changer in Karnataka and is going the whole hog on that front. But, it has its own set of challenges.

It was the first party in the state to start the process of shortlisting candidates in September 2023. Ironically, it is yet to announce candidates in 21 seats, including that of Kharge and Siddaramaiah's home districts.

Congress leaders may have been waiting to see how things could pan out after BJP and JDS announced their candidates so that they could exploit the fault lines and come up with better strategies. But, the delay reflects poorly on its confidence and is bad for optics.

As the national parties fix the shortcomings in their strategies, stakes are very high for Janata Dal (Secular). The regional party appears to have settled for a few seats in Old Mysuru, apart from former PM HD Deve Gowda's son-in-law and noted cardiologist Dr CN Manjunath contesting as a BJP candidate.

Indications from the ground suggest that the JDS faces a tough fight even on its home turfs, Hassan and Mandya. In Hassan, the party faces difficulties in getting support from BJP workers, whose politics was built on opposing JDS. The Congress candidate Shreyas Patel also appears to be formidable. He had lost assembly polls against HD Revanna in Holenarsipura by a narrow margin of 3,000 votes. His grandfather Puttaswamy Gowda had defeated Deve Gowda in assembly polls in 1989 and Lok Sabha polls in 1999. Gowda's grandson Prajwal Revanna is likely to be the JDS candidate in Hassan.

As things stand now, it is not going to be an easy fight for any party in any of the constituencies in Karnataka.

Corruption, oxygen for Congress, says Modi

RAMAKRISHNA BADSESHI
@ Kalaburagi

"CONGRESS cannot survive without corruption, which is like oxygen to it," criticised Prime Minister Narendra Modi here on Saturday.

Launching his Lok Sabha election campaign in Karnataka from Kalaburagi on Saturday, he alleged that Karnataka is like an ATM for Congress as it is in power here and is looting the public. "Congress knows it will not come to power in any of the states in future. That is why it is following the theory of 'Jitana loot sakta hai lootlo' (loot as much as you can)," he said.

"To stop this looting, it is necessary to strengthen BJP by electing our candidates in good numbers," he said.

Congress claims it started implementing its five guarantees immediately after assuming power and that it is a party of farmers.

"But no pumpsets are working in villages and farmers are fed up," he said.

In fact, it is his government that has implemented several public welfare schemes, but has not named them guarantees.

"In Karnataka, on one side the government is claiming it has implemented its guarantees, on the other, its minister and legislators say there is no money for taking up works except for guarantees," he said.

LISTEN TO ME IN KANNADA, SAYS PM

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said he has utmost love and affection for Kannada. To see his love for the language, people have to go to social media and open 'NAMO in Kannada' handle, which allows them to hear his speeches in Kannada in his voice. "Then I will be at your service, you can tell anybody that Modi is in my pocket (Modi Mere Jeb Me Hai). You should support me in promoting respect towards Kannada," he said.

7th pay panel recommends 27.5% hike in basic salary

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE 7th Pay Commission has recommended a 27.5% hike in the basic salary of state government employees, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said on Saturday. The government will peruse the report and take appropriate decisions, the CM said after receiving the report from commission chairman and former chief secretary K Sudhakar Rao. The commission's tenure ended on March 15.

The government earlier allowed 17% increase on the basic pay as an interim measure, the CM said. The CM said the commission has recommended that the minimum basic salary should be increased from Rs 17,000 to Rs 27,000. The Finance Department will look into the recommendations in detail and give suggestions to the government, the CM said.

According to a statement issued by the state government employees' association, the commission recommendations also included a five-day work week, a maximum basic salary from Rs 1,04,600 to Rs 2,41,200, 180 days leave with 50% pay for employees to take care of sick family members and 10 % increase in basic pension for pensioners of 70 to 80 years of age.

Meanwhile in Kalaburagi, former chief minister Basavaraj Bommai said now the Election Code of Conduct will come into effect and the implementation will be postponed further.

The Customs Air Intelligence Unit (AIU) on Saturday intercepted a passenger for smuggling 664.95 g of gold at Kochi airport. The arrested, Saifudheen of Tirurangady arrived on a flight from Malaysia. During the check, 3 capsules containing gold in paste form were recovered from his body

EXPRESS READ

Stung by bees, trekker falls from hill, dies

Nilgiris: A 26-year-old youth from Dindigul, who was part of a group of 10 tourists, fell into a gorge and died while trying to escape a swarm of bees at Sengottaraayar Malai, near Selas, in Coonoor on Friday. The body of Praveen, the deceased, was recovered on Saturday after a drone camera spotted it 250-ft deep inside the valley amid bushes, police said. The 10 tourists had come together wanted to view the Coonoor valley from Sengottaraayar hill.

KSRTC bags three national awards

Bengaluru: Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) won two Association of State Road Transport Undertaking's (ASRTU)---National Public Excellence Awards for best innovative branding on Image Building Practices and Personnel Welfare Productivity. Anurag Jain, secretary, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, president ASRTU, presented the awards to KSRTC. Further, the bus corporation bagged the Punjab Leadership Award for its innovative Human Resource Initiative.

Ex-minister Nagamma Keshavamurthy no more

Davanagere: Former minister Nagamma Keshavamurthy (90), a veteran politician, passed away at her residence on Saturday. Nagamma who won on Congress ticket from Mayakonda constituency of Davanagere district had worked as Education Minister and Industries Minister in the S M Krishna Cabinet. Nagamma's political career started as a member of the Davanagere city municipal council.

Cong promises job guarantee for city dwellers

'Shramik Nyay' to provide employment, 'Hissedari Nyay' to remove 50% cap on quota

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI
@Bengaluru

CONGRESS president Mallikarjun Kharge on Saturday announced another five guarantees each for 'Shramik Nyay' and 'Hissedari Nyay'.

'Shramik Nyay' promises an employment guarantee for the urban dwellers besides Rs 400 as the national minimum wage for the labourers that also applies to the MGNREGA workers. Whereas, the 'Hissedari Nyay' promises to remove the 50% cap on the reservation for SCs, STs, and OBCs and raise the quota up to 65%, like in Tamil Nadu, through a Constitutional amendment.

Besides, Congress also promises to protect the dwellings of adivasis residing in forests, including MSP for their products. "The jal, jungle, and zameen of adivasis are being held hostage by big business houses and the dear friends of the Modi government," Kharge said while addressing the media in Bengaluru.

When his attention was drawn to the guarantees announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi ahead of the Lok Sabha polls, Kharge said it was a "good thing" if the former was copying the age-old concept of the Congress initiated by former PM Indira Gandhi in the 1970s.

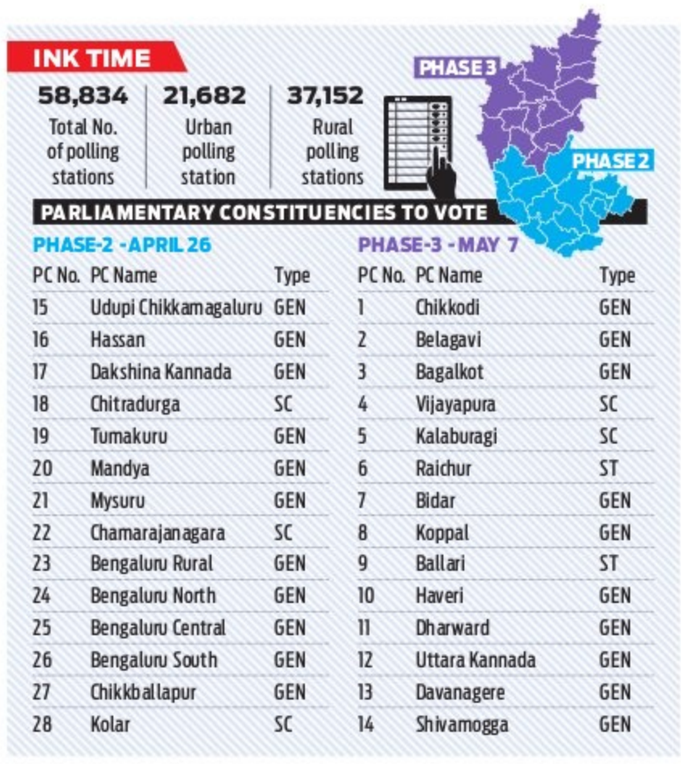
"In Karnataka and Telangana, the Congress governments have been promptly implementing the guarantees. It is a good thing if Modi is learning from us," he quipped. He said that the Congress set an agenda of 'nyay' for the upcoming polls, besides highlighting the failures of the NDA government in the last 10 years, including inflation, unemployment, misuse of autonomous agencies, and destruction of Constitutional values and democracy. "I urge the citizens to examine and understand Congress' guarantees carefully and support us," he added.

According to informed sources, Kharge wanted to launch the latest guarantees in Mumbai on Sunday, where party leader and Wayanad MP Rahul Gandhi's 63-day 'Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra' was to culminate. However, Kharge was forced to make the announcement in Bengaluru on Saturday ahead of the Election Commission of India announcing the poll dates. Calling PM Modi a liar as he failed to generate 2 crore jobs annually and also double the income of farmers as promised by the BJP, Kharge said, "He visited Kalaburagi despite not doing anything for its development," Kharge taunted. He also took a dig at the PM for not sanctioning AIIMS for Kalaburagi. "Modi lied saying CM Siddaramaiah did not allot the required land. Even BS Yediyurappa is aware of it," he added.

'Caste census a must'

Further, Kharge said Congress is committed to conducting the caste census in the country if voted to power. On some within the Congress opposing the socio-economic survey report (caste census) submitted to CM Siddaramaiah in Karnataka, Kharge said everyone should abide by the party's decision if the State Government resolves to accept the report.

B'luru North has most voters in Karnataka



PHASE-2 - APRIL 26

PC No.	PC Name	Type
15	Udupi Chikkamagaluru	GEN
16	Hassan	GEN
17	Dakshina Kannada	GEN
18	Chitradurga	SC
19	Tumakuru	GEN
20	Mandya	GEN
21	Mysuru	GEN
22	Chamarajanagara	SC
23	Bengaluru Rural	GEN
24	Bengaluru North	GEN
25	Bengaluru Central	GEN
26	Bengaluru South	GEN
27	Chikkballapur	GEN
28	Kolar	SC

PHASE-3 - MAY 7

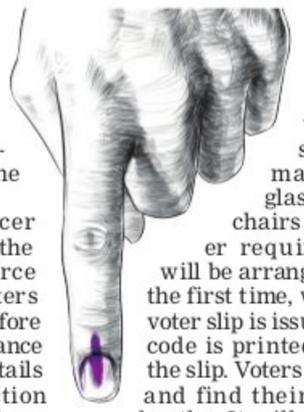
PC No.	PC Name	Type
1	Chikkodi	GEN
2	Belagavi	GEN
3	Bagalkot	GEN
4	Vijayapura	SC
5	Kalaburagi	SC
6	Raichur	ST
7	Bidar	GEN
8	Koppal	GEN
9	Ballari	ST
10	Haveri	GEN
11	Dharward	GEN
12	Uttara Kannada	GEN
13	Davanagere	GEN
14	Shivamogga	GEN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

BENGALURU North has the highest number of voters in the state at 31,74,098, while Udupi-Chikkamagaluru has the lowest at 15,72,958.

Chief Electoral Officer Manoj Kumar Meena said the model code came into force from Saturday. Youngsters who will turn 18 on or before March 31 can apply in advance by filling Form 6. Their details will reflect on the Election Commission website from April 1. "There are 50,000 advance applications with us. Booth level officers will visit the homes of those aged above 85 and PwD, seeking details if they want to opt for a postal ballot. They will have to fill Form 12. They will cast their votes seven days in advance of the polling date," he added.

To help PwD voters, election officials will arrange vehicles, if they choose to visit polling



booths. Voice assistance, text-to-speech, magnifying glass, wheelchairs and other requirements will be arranged. "For the first time, when the voter slip is issued, a QR code is printed behind the slip. Voters can scan and find their polling booths. It will have the geo-coordinates," he said.

From August 1, 2023 to March 14, 2024, seizures worth Rs 537.51 crore have been made and 4,710 FIRs filed. "In all, 2,357 flying squads have been formed and in each team, staff are working in three shifts."

Work on drought relief has nothing to do with the model code, but meetings on works have to be chaired by deputy commissioners, he added.

Kharge raises concern over 7-phase polling, says growth will take a hit

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

CONGRESS president Mallikarjun Kharge took a dig at the Election Commission of India (ECI) on Saturday for its decision to conduct the Lok Sabha elections in seven phases. He said that development would take a hit in the country as the entire poll process spans almost 80 days.

"It would have helped a lot of people if the polls finished early, with the results coming out on May 3 or 4. But they (PM Narendra Modi and the BJP) have managed to prolong the poll process so that it helps him (Modi) to travel to the states and districts that he is yet to visit," Kharge told the media here. He also said that all development work will be stopped for nearly 70–80 days due to the Model Code of Conduct.

AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge with CM Siddaramaiah at a press meet in Bengaluru

Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, however, said elections will not affect the day-to-day affairs concerning people. "Those works already announced in the budget with the allocation of funds will continue. But some work and a few political decisions cannot be taken," he added.

Shivakumar clarified that he has doubts about EVMs and stood by the party's stand on the same, saying that all the VVPATs should be counted in the polls. "This is a festival of democracy. We are very confident of winning 20 seats in the state," Shivakumar said.

"We approach these elections with a spirit of optimism and a commitment to the values that have long defined our party: guaranteed inclusivity, progress, and social justice. Our campaign is grounded in a vision for a guaranteed future where every citizen has the guarantee of opportunity to thrive, supported by policies that ensure equitable growth, environmental sustainability, and empowerment for all," he said

Shorapur Assembly seat to go for bypolls on May 7

YADGIR: Byelections to the Shorapur Assembly constituency will be held along with the parliamentary elections to Raichur Lok Sabha Constituency on May 7, said Yadgir Deputy Commissioner Sushila on Saturday. Speaking with TNSE, Sushila, who is also district returning officer of Yadgir, said all taluks of Yadgir district, except Gurmitkal Assembly constituency, fall under the Raichur Lok Sabha constituency. The notification for the elections will be issued on April 12 and the last date for submission is April 19. There are 2,81,375 voters, including 1,41,618 men, 1,39,729 women and 98 transgenders in Shorapur constituency. As many as 317 polling stations will be set up in the constituency, she said.

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id :** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Ph :** 0435-2432322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746

TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.1,32,94,255/- (Rupees One Crore Thirty Two Lakh Ninety Four Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty Five only)** as on **13-03-2024** together with further interest to be charged from **14-03-2024** onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the borrowers / guarantors **No.1) Mr. Vishwanath.M, S/o. Mani, at G-9, SSD Pearls Apartment, Chikkalasandra, Subramanyapura, Bangalore South, Bangalore - 560061. Also At, Mr. Vishwanath.M, S/o. Mani at No.G69, SSD Pearls Apartment, Chikkalasandra, Subramanyapura, Bangalore - 560061. No.2) Mrs. Mamatha B.T., W/o. Vishwanath.M, at G-9, SSD Pearls Apartment, Chikkalasandra, Subramanyapura, Bangalore South, Bangalore - 560061. Also At, Mrs. Mamatha B.T, W/o. Vishwanath.M, at No.G69, SSD Pearls Apartment, Chikkalasandra, Subramanyapura, Bangalore - 560061. No.3) Mr. Vijay.R, S/o. G.Ramesh, at 282, 14th Cross, Chengaiah Layout, Bangalore South, Thyagrajanagar, Bangalore - 560028.**

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank
Schedule - A : (Property Owned by Mr. Vishwanath.M, S/o. Mani)

RCC, G+1, Residential Building with land an extent of 1,220 sq.ft., situated at Site No.7, New No.63/1, PID No.55-56-63/1, situated at 1st Main, 1st Cross, Subramanyapura Road, the layout formed in the Survey No.43/1 of Kadirenahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, now called Muneshwarangara Opposite to Petrol Bunk, Kadirenahalli, Bangalore measuring : East to West 40 feet, North to South 30½ feet and bounded on : East by : Site No.6, West by : Road, North by : Site No.8, South by : Property given to plaintiff share in Site No.7. With Superstructure putup thereon.

Reserve Price : Rs.85,00,000/-
(Rupees Eighty Five Lakh only)

AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
25-04-2024	City Union Bank Limited, Bangalore-R T Nagar Branch, 590 HMT Layout, 4th Cross, R T Nagar, Bangalore - 560032. Telephone No.080-23337000, Cell No.9342855177.

Terms and Conditions of Tender-cum-Auction Sale :

(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself/herself. **(2)** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, Bangalore-R T Nagar Branch, 590 HMT Layout, 4th Cross, R T Nagar, Bangalore - 560032. (3)** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 12.00 Noon** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. **(4)** For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact **Telephone No.080-23337000, Cell No.9342855177. (5)** The property/ies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever-there is" basis. **(6)** The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **01.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. **(7)** The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the Sale amount **immediately** on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. **(8)** The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **(9)** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. **(10)** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. **(11)** The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 15-03-2024 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.** 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

MAHATRANSCO — E-TENDER (RFx) NOTICE

Notice for submission of online bids (RFx) for following

	RFx/Tender No. & Description
	RFx No. 7000030980 **Work of replacement of existing 0.2 ACSR Conductor by equivalent High Performance conductor of a) 132kV Harangul- Ausa-Niwali-Ujani D/C Line & b) 132kV Ujani - Tuljapur - Naldurg - Bale (Solapur) D/C Line including LILO portion of Tuljapur & Naldurg under Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar Zone"** **Estimated Cost: - Rs 1,759,813,080.35/- Only (including GST & labour cess)** **EMD- Rs 1,75,98,130.80/-** **Tender Fees:- Rs 25000/- (Excluding GST)** **Tender already published on dt 16.03.2024 at 14.00 HRS on MSETCL SRM Portal and on Web site**

For further details, visit our Website https://srmetender.mahatransco.in

Sd/-
Chief Engineer EHV PC & O&M Zone MSETCL
Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar.

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank

Regional Office- Devanahalli RO, Devanahalli
Ph: 080-22230215/Mob:8309840172
e-mail: afblrruralro@canarabank.com

PUBLIC AUCTION (OFFLINE) OF GOLD ORNAMENTS

The under mentioned persons are hereby informed that they have failed to pay off the liability in the gold loan accounts. Notices sent to them by Registered Post have been returned / undelivered, to the Bank. They are therefore requested to pay off the liability and other charges and redeem the pledged securities on or before **27.03.2024** failing which the said securities will be sold by the Bank in public auction at the cost of the borrower at the respective Bank's branch premises at **12.00 P.M.to 4.00 P.M** on **27.03.2024** or on any other convenient date thereafter without further notice, at the absolute discretion of the Bank. Names of the Branch, Name of the Borrower, Loan account Numbers and Loan Amounts are mentioned hereunder:

Sl No	Branch Name	Borrowers Name	Loan A/c. No.	Loan Amount
1	KULUVANAHALLI BRANCH(1919)	RUDRAIAH	1919842013357	40,000
2	NELAMANGALA MAIN BRANCH(0445)	ESHWAR Y P	0445842022489	60,000
3	NELAMANGALA II BRANCH (10490)	THOUHID A	180160733195	120,000
4	NELAMANGALA II BRANCH (10490)	VENKATESHAIAH	04908390002924	75,000
5	N HOSAHALLI BRANCH(4436)	NAGARAJAPPA	4436842007310	50,000
6	N HOSAHALLI BRANCH(4436)	LAKSHMAPPA.M	4436842007973	100,000
7	K MALLASANDRA BRANCH(6255)	RAGHUNATH K B	6255836000554	70,000
8	HOSAKOTE BRANCH (0598)	SHARMILA BANU	0598836001049	230,000

Palce: Bengaluru Date :17.03.2024 Sd/- Manager

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda

Girinagar Branch, # 5, 50 Feet Road, Avalahalli Extension, Girinagar, Bengaluru – 560026
Contact No.080-26740805/26749686, email: vjgina@bankofbaroda.co.in

NOTICE TO BORROWER

(UNDER SUB-SECTION (2) OF SECTION 13 OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002)

'At your request, Bank has extended credit facilities to the below mentioned individuals against secured assets through its **Bank of Baroda.** The relevant particulars of the property on which you have created security interest by execution of security agreement/documents & creation of mortgage by way deposit of title deeds are furnished hereunder. As the operation and conduct of the financial assistance/ credit facilities have become irregular, the debts have been classified as Non Performing Assets in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India consequent to the default committed by the borrowers in repayment of the principal debt and interest thereon. As the demand notice sent by register AD calling upon you, was un-served/not acknowledged, this publication is now issued.

1.Name and Address of the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Mortgagor/Guarantor: (1) Mr. Hanumantha Rao Medarametla, # 202, Akshaya Towers Madeenaguda, Behind Varun Motors Miyapur, Hyderabad, Telangana-500049. And **(2) Mrs. Radha Rao Medarametla #** 202, Akshaya Towers Madeenaguda, Behind Varun Motors Miyapur, Hyderabad, Telangana-500049.

Sl No	Nature And Type of Facility	Limit (Rs.) In lakhs	Rate of Interest	O/s as on 28.02.2024 (Inclusive of interest upto28.02.2024)
01	Term loan- Home loan	85.00	9.05	Rs.71,92,478.00 Dr

Schedule : The following security was mortgaged vide memorandum of deposit of title deeds no. MDPD-1-00067/2019-20 dated 02.04.2019 at sub registrar Shivajinagar.

SCHEDULE 'A' Property : Item no. 1 : All that piece and parcel ofResidential converted land bearing Sy. No.73/5, measuring 1-acre, 17 Guntas (converted vide official Memorandum dated 6/7/2013, bearing No. ALN(EVH)SR/443/2012-13, issued by Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District Bangalore), situated at Balagere Village, VarthurHobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore. Bounded as; East by : Remaining portion of Sy.No.73/5, West by : Remaining portion of Sy.No.73/5, North by : Land bearing Sy.No.73/4, South by : Land bearing Sy.No.73/6.

Item no. II : All that piece and parcel of Residential converted land bearing Sy.No.73/6, measuring; 21 Guntas (converted vide official Memorandum dated 6/7/2013, bearing No. ALN(EVH)SR/443/2012-13, issued by Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District Bangalore), situated at Balagere Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore. Bounded as; East by : Remaining portion of Sy.No.73/6, West by : Remaining portion of Sy.No.73/6, North by: Land bearing Sy.No.73/5, South by : Road

Composite Schedule Property: All that piece and parcel of Residential converted land bearing Sy.No.73/5, measuring; 1-Acre 17Guntas and Residential converted Land Bearing Sy.No.73/6 measuring 21 Guntas, both the properties totally measuring 1 Acre 38 guntas, (converted vide official Memorandum dated 6/7/2013, bearing No.ALN(EVH)SR/443/2012-13, issued by Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore), Presently Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike Katha No.359/73/5/73/6/17, situated at Balagere Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore. Bounded as; East by : Remaining portion of Sy.No.73/5 and 73/6, West by : Remaining portion of Sy.No.73/5 and 73/6, North by : Land Bearing Sy.No.73/4, South by : Road.

SCHEDULE ' B ' Property: 328 Sq.feet Undivided Share, right, title and interest in the Schedule 'A' Property (Proportionate to the Schedule C property).

SCHEDULE ' C ' Property: Residential Apartment bearing No.002 in the Ground floor, Block-B, in Wing 'C', admeasuring a super built area of 1224 Sq.Ft. consisting of 2 bedrooms in the multistoried Residential Apartments building known as "Sri Krishna Excel Stone" constructed over the Schedule 'A' property inclusive of proportionate share in the common areas such as passage, lobbies, lift, staircase and other areas of common area (including half portion in depth of the joints between of ceiling of the Apartment and floor of the Apartment above it, internal and external walls between such levels) and the building is of RCC roofing as per specification appended hereto with separate electricity, common water and sanitation including all rights, title, interest, privileges appurtenances together with a covered car parking space slot to be earmarked and the apartment is bounded on: East by: Corridor, West by: Open to Sky, North by: Open to Sky, South by: Corridor.

Amount Outstanding : Rs.71,92,478.00 Dr (Rupees Seventy One Lakh Ninety Two Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Eight Only) as on 28.02.2024 + Interest from 28.02.2024 + Other Charges.

NPA Date : 28.02.2024 **Demand Notice Date : 06.03.2024**

If you fail to repay the aforesaid sum with interest and incidental expenses within 60 days from the date of this notice, Bank shall exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub section (4) of the section 13 of the SARFAESI Act. You are also put on notice that in terms of sub section 13 of section 13, you shall not transfer by sale, lease or otherwise the said secured assets detailed above without obtaining written consent of the Bank. This notice is without prejudice to the Banks rights to initiate such other action or legal proceedings as it deem necessary under any other applicable provisions of law.

Date : 16.03.2024 **Sd/- Chief Manager**
Place : Bengaluru **Bank of Baroda**

यूनियन बैंक Union Bank of India

Dasarahalli Branch,
No 1478 DRLS PLAZA,
Tumkur Road, T Dasarahalli Bangalore 560057
Contact no: 8355816601
mail ID : ubin0816604@unionbankofindia.bank

DEMAND NOTICE

UNDER SEC.13 (2) SARFAESI Act 2002

Enforcement of security interest Action Notice-In connection with the credit facilities enjoyed by the following borrower with in the branch mentioned herein below- classified as NPA We have to inform that you the following borrower whose name and address and the name of the branch where you have availed the credit facilities offering the property mentioned herein below. Since you have failed to repay the loan amounts as agreed by you, your following mentioned account/s has/have been classified as Non Performing Assets [NPA] as on the date mentioned herein below. The individual notice has been also already sent to, each of you demanding the due amount, Same notice returned hence this notice.

1. Name and Address of the Borrower/Mortgagor: Applicant/Co- Applicant's: Borrower: 1(a). Mr. G Manjunatha, S/o Mr Govindappa, No 31, 11th Cross, Papareddy Palya, BBMP Office, Nagarbhavi 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560072 **Also at** : M/s Davangere Benne Dosa, 80 Ft Road, 2nd Block, Chandra Layout Maruthi Nagar, Bangalore-560072, **1(b). Mrs. Nancy Sulochana,** W/o Mr.G Manjunatha, No 31, 11th Cross, Papareddy Palya, BBMP Office, Nagarbhavi 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560072.

[Details of the credit facility/ies availed by the Borrower]

Facility & A/c No.	Outstanding amount as on date of NPA i.e. as on 04.03.2024	Un applied interest w.e.f.04.12.2023 to 04.03.2024	Total dues
HLGEN	Rs 66,45,089.09	Rs 1,48,208.11	Rs 67,93,297.00

Amount Outstanding : As on 04.03.2024 a sum of Rs. 67,93,297.20 (Rupees Sixty seven lakhs ninety three thousand two hundred ninety seven and paise twenty only) with uncharged interest and future interest along with other contingents charges.

NPA Date : 04.03.2024 **Demand Notice Date : 07.03.2024**

Description of the Secured Assets : All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Site No 15, Property No 60/4, Khata No 234 situated at Doddabidarakallu Village, Yeshwanthpur Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk now comes under the limits of BBMP Bangalore measuring East to West 47 feet and North to South 55 feet, totally measuring 2585 square feet and bounded on : East by : Site No 16, West : Others Property, North : Road, South : Govt Channel.

If you fail to repay the aforesaid sum with interest and incidental expenses within 60 days from the date of this notice, Bank shall exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub section (4) of the section 13 of the SARFAESI Act. You are also put on notice that in terms of sub section 13 of section 13, you shall not transfer by sale, lease or otherwise the said secured assets detailed above without obtaining written consent of the Bank. This notice is without prejudice to the Banks rights to initiate such other action or legal proceedings as it deem necessary under any other applicable provisions of law. Your kind attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Date : 07.03.2024 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place : Bangalore **Union Bank of India**

FEDERAL BANK

YOUR PERFECT BANKING PARTNER

The Federal Bank Ltd., Loan Collection and Recovery Department / Bangalore Division, No. 3, Church Street, 2nd Floor, MSR West Park, Bengaluru-560 001, Karnataka,
Phone: +91 8095828647, Email: bgrlcrd@federalbank.co.in
Website: www.federalbank.co.in, CIN: L65191KL1931PLC000368

POSSESSION NOTICE

(For Immovable Property)

Where as the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Federal Bank Ltd. under the Securitisation& Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (hereinafter referred to as Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) of the said Act read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (hereinafter referred to as Rules) issued a demand notice dated **19.12.2023** calling upon the borrowers **(1) Shri. Abhishek Singh,** S/o Ranjit Kumar Singh, (a) Flat No. 503, Block 1, Ansal Krsna Apartment, Hosur Main Road, Adugodi, Bangalore- 560071, (b) #95/1/3A, 2nd Floor, Cossipre Road, Near Gun and Shell Factory Hospital, Cossipre, Kolkata Bankura, West Bengal- 700002, **(2) Smt. Sunita Singh,** W/o Abhishek Singh, (a) Flat No. 503, Block 1, Ansal Krsna Apartment, Hosur Main Road, Adugodi, Bangalore- 560071, (b) #95/1/3A, 2nd Floor, Cossipre Road, Near Gun and Shell Factory Hospital, Cossipre, Kolkata Bankura, West Bengal- 700002 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **(1) ₹59,76,671/-** (Rupees Fifty Nine Lakhs Seventy Six Thousand Six Hundred and Seventy One Only) under Federal Housing loan with number 14377300006075,**(2) ₹.47,30,666/-** (Rupees Forty Seven lakhs Thirty Thousand Six Hundred and Sixty Six only) under Home Plus Top Up Equity loan with number 14377600017400 within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said Rules on this **15th day of March the year 2024.**

The borrower/s' attention is invited to the provisions of section 13 (8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets (security properties).

The borrower in particular and public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Federal Bank Ltd. for an amount of **₹.1,09,25,485/-** (Rupees One Crore Nine Lakhs Twenty Five Thousand Four Hundred and Eighty Five Only),comprising **(1) ₹.60,76,274/-** as on **16/02/2024** under Federal Housing loan with number 14377300006075 and **(2) ₹.48,49,211/-** as on **25/02/2024** under Home Plus Top Up Equity loan with number 14377600017400 and interest thereon.

Description of the Immovable Property

All the piece and parcel of the Flat No. 709, Seventh Floor, in Apartment building known as Ansal Krsna I having a super built up area of 1405 Sq.ft consisting of two bedrooms and marble flooring without car parking with 487.55 Sq.ft undivided share of right, title and interest in the immovable property bearing Sy. No. 66/1, 66/2, 66/3 and 66/4 of Adugodi Village, Hosur Road, Bangalore, Corporation Ward No. 146, Bangalore with all its appurtenances, easements and rights attached thereto etc., measuring in all about 16573.04 Sq. meters, bounded on: East by: Hosur Road, West By: Remaining portion of Sy. No. 66/1, 66/2, 66/3 and 66/4, North By: Portion of Sy. No. 66/1 and 66/2 belong to Sarvodaya Seva Sangha. South By: Private property Sy. No. 66/5.

Date : 15.03.2024 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place : Bengaluru **The Federal Bank Ltd**

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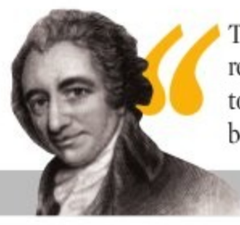

"To take away the right of voting for representatives is to reduce a man to slavery, for slavery consists of being subject to the will of another

Thomas Paine

INTERPRETATION OF MALADIES IN PARTY MANIFESTOS

THE THIRD EYE

SHANKKAR AIYAR
Author of *The Gated Republic*, *Aadhaar: A Biometric History of India's 12 Digit Revolution*, and *Accidental India*
(shankkar.aiyar@gmail.com)

THE bugles have been sounded and the drumbeats of campaign rhetoric are set to echo across India's festival of democracy. Election campaigns are essentially partisan interpretations of maladies and manifestos proffer pious promises. The issues which deserve debate and a contest of competitive ideas are often waylaid by emotive issues.

On the face of it, India is at the cusp of emerging from a developing economy to a developed economy. It is the fifth largest and the fastest growing economy headed towards the $10-trillion GDP goal by the end of the decade. The India Story is constantly evolving and is located between macro perspectives and micro details. The divergence of incomes and prosperity is visible in the political geography of India's economy. It is useful to remember that the macro perspective fogs the micro issues which haunt and daunt the progress of this journey towards the ideal of Viksit Bharat.

Here are a few issues which merit space in manifestos, which parties contesting for the mandate must debate.

Primary education: How equipped are India's youth to leverage opportunities in a global economy propelled by technology? The latest ASER report by Pratham looked at the foundational skills of 14 to 18 year olds. It showed that one of four among this group cannot read Class II texts fluently in their regional language and over half struggle with division of 3 digits by 1 digit. For six decades, India's governments have promised and failed to invest 6 percent of GDP in education. Certainly, technology—especially new ideas based on platforms and AI tutors—could help. Can the parties present solutions?

Jobs, skilling and the AI factor: The government has presented data from multiple sources and angles on employment creation. Yet unemployment is the number one concern in opinion polls. Evidently, there is a gap between need and availability. Last month, over 4.8 million young Indians appeared in an exam for 60,000 posts! IT services, India's largest white-collar employer, is threatened by the accelerated adoption of generative AI. Huang Jenson of NVidia says "AI will take over coding". The chairman of Nasscom observed "BPO workers are at the maximum risk from AI." Yes, the Congress has put forth an idea of apprenticeship for graduates and diploma holders. Is it viable? Will the campaign witness a debate on jobs, skilling and leveraging generative AI?

Primary healthcare: India's Ayushman Bharat programme is one of the largest public healthcare programmes in the world—it has over 300 million enrolled and has covered the cost of 62 million hospitalisations. India's primary healthcare system though has a long way to go. For sure, it has achieved WHO's 'golden finishing line' of 1 doctor per 834 people, but the availability of allopathic doctors is at 13.08 lakh for 1.4 billion and is skewed towards urban India. Access to primary care is daunted by gaps in personnel and infrastructure. India has over 5.9 lakh inhabited villages served by 1.9 lakh sub centres, 31,000 primary health centres and 6,064 community health centres—the shortfall of specialist doctors at community health centres is 79.5 percent. Do the parties have a prescription?

Agriculture: Farmers are by far the largest political constituency. Agriculture is the largest private sector employer. There is much lather in the political arena about minimum support prices and loan write-offs. This column has observed that India's agriculture continues to be under licence raj and the curse of imperfect markets is visible in income levels, in the volatility in rural consumption and food price inflation. Over 45 percent of the workforce engaged in agriculture lives off a sixth of the national income—per capita income in rural India is less than half the urban per capita income. It is, clearly, an unsustainable and broken system. Agriculture cannot be a charity cause for politics. Do the parties have a template for liberating the farmer?

Urbanisation: It is well established that urbanisation is a force multiplier for economic growth. Yet urban India and urbanisation is verily the step child of India's politics. The BJP's 2014 idea of "100 new cities" morphed into a vague promise of smart cities. Indeed, India is home to over 3,700 Census towns—a curiously unique Indian caricature where habitats are neither urban nor rural. The segment, located at the intersection of rural and urban economy, affords shifting of workforce from farming. China ramped up urbanisation from 40 percent to 64 percent in the past two decades and the reconfiguration of land for manufacturing and services led to revaluation of land propelled incomes and growth. Given the challenges of rising young population and climate change India must shift from unplanned to designed sustainable urbanisation. Will the urban voters get some attention?

In the global race for growth, comparisons with China are inescapable. China overtook the UK in 2005 to emerge as the 4th largest economy. Its GDP stood at $2.24 trillion, per capita income at $1,750, literacy rate at 91 percent and 45 percent of its workforce was engaged in agriculture. It leveraged global opportunities to expand manufacturing, moved labour from farms to productive sectors and urbanised aggressively.

India will need to do all of this and more as it faces the rising spectre of disruptions—demography, technology and climate change—and uncertainty. Do India's parties have a plan to enable India to navigate the economic and geopolitical troughs?

BETWEEN CONTINUITY AND LOOSE CHANGE?

OPINION

SANTWANA BHATTACHARYA
Editor
Follow her on X @santwana99

THE summer of judgement is almost upon us, and it's with a surprising sense of novelty that we meet it. Now that the Election Commission has given us the expected seven-phase calendar for voting, we are officially in election season. With an electorate inching towards 1 billion on the weighing scale, the 18th Lok Sabha election will easily be the biggest exercise ever in world history to elicit a popular mandate—India's total population in 1947 was just 34 crore, one-third of the present voting population of 97 crore. At 47.1 crore, women voters are still less than half of that, but with increasingly enthusiastic participation and independent choice-making, not an irrelevant detail at all. A bloc of nearly 20 crore are in the restive age-group of 20-29. Some 1.84 crore will experience the rituals of democracy for the first time.

Does the quality of choice match up? What's the broad mood? If anyone had asked that question in 2022, it might have been a formality. If anything marks out the Narendra Modi dispensation, it's that sense it exudes of unshakeable entrenchment in power. This has long been one of its prime sources of political capital, being able to signify a certain inevitability of outcomes. Those in favour luxuriated in that sense, those against resigned to it.

Of late, that static air has been ruffled somewhat. The BJP's language of certitude is suddenly a little less serene—indeed, its repeated incantation of "400 *paar*" seems flecked by a hint of unspoken anxiety. Bereft of a lightning rod like Pulwama, it has been collecting little slivers of political turf—just to be sure. After Ram, it thought it sagacious to also toss Nitish Kumar into its quiver for good measure, while plucking a few more loose satraps and legislators wherever possible, ending with a surprise teaming-up with Naveen Patnaik. All actions meant to seal a handful of seats each, stocking up meticulously as if to hedge against any chance of deficient rainfall. That is, careful vigil. Not the gallantly delusional optimism of the 2004 'Shining India' election. That they felt the need for it is the novelty.

The reasons for it are all out there. The pro vote is still an immense coalition of the willing, the fortress walls thick with scheme beneficiaries, votaries of visible development, and those who vote on pure political affiliations.

EXPRESS

This is further firewalled by institutional capture, which extends to the media landscape, where manufactured consensus rolls out on an industrial scale—dissent, by contrast, is a cottage industry. By all accounts, it looks impregnable. But beyond all that, there are sectors of genuine disaffection. In the armies of jobless youth, in the stressed farm sector, and in civil society where issues like electoral bonds play out on the plane of moral legitimacy. Modi had arrived at a time when UPA-II was collapsing upon itself in moral exhaustion; the promise of salvation, deferred too long for many Indians, has not aged well.

On the other side, the Congress is showing some signs of being revivified, even if at the head of a rickety alliance; and key big states like Bihar, West Bengal and Maharashtra are asking big questions. Tejashwi Yadav's growth and maturation as a mass leader seems to be inversely proportional to Nitish's diminution. Bengal, through all grim seven phases, will pit polarising themes like CAA and Sandeshkhali against Mamata Banerjee, still very much a thundercloud with chances of lightning. Maharashtra has too many moving parts. But if the BJP's self-assurance is a touch soft around the edges, the Opposition has not entirely emerged from its paralysis of diffidence either. It arrives at the battlefield assailed by a sense of prior resignation, almost like a hope too timid to turn into conviction. Big names are conspicuously absent in Congress candidate lists—the generals are being a little too choosy about picking their battles, when not dodging the draft altogether. Not to speak of shelves full of potential fifth columnists, and those locked in fratricidal fights. All too often, David seems armed with a boomerang rather than a slingshot.

But the more things do not change, the more they may not stay the same. Whether or not the results alter the external structures of power, aspects of the polity's evolution are plain to see. One, the Congress has for the first time explicitly adopted the language of caste empowerment. This has the capacity to be different from the paternalistic inclusivity of Gandhi, and certainly the empty tokenism it became over time—both of which entailed a gentle reformism that did not threaten the status quo. It is difficult to mark it in terms of tactical utility because its immediate effects are unpredictable.

For one, the OBC castes hardly vote as a single bloc, and are part of a whole spectrum of middle castes that are rival claimants to power and resources in competitive local landscapes. The profusion of small caste-based parties, each vying for tickets, are a reflection of that grassroots reality, where in the short term it creates a zero sum game. A ticket to a Jat comes at the cost of a Gujjar, and so on and so forth. But in the long term, this ferment marks out a live field of ongoing democratic empowerment—what is frequently looked at askance as 'fragmentation' by the caste elite is a process that's deepening the penetration of political power.

So when Rahul Gandhi, on his Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra, names the layers again and again—Adivasi, Dalit, OBC and, of late, the 'poor general caste'—he is doing more than just counting off the constituents of the old, all-encompassing umbrella Congress vote. He is reinventing the 'big tent' in structurally more radical terms, getting a bit more Ambedkar into a Gandhian frame. This integrates livelihood themes with the idea of numerically commensurate rights for the 'bahujan'. An authentic and articulate figure like Mallikarjun Kharge at the party's helm completes the picture.

This is, of course, not a straightforward question of showing up and saying Jai Bhim. The traditional Congress elite and their middle-class support base is not without disquiet about this turn—from an embedded privileged-caste perspective, it strikes them only as tactical folly. There are other paradoxes. The licence-holder of the Karpoori legacy, Nitish Kumar, who had initiated this strategic phase with his caste census last year, is himself on the opposite side now. And Mayawati's BSP, authentic practitioners of this politics but in semi-eclipse presently, won't be the only ones ambivalent about the Congress regaining its old vote. A lot of the fractious seat-sharing talks within the INDIA coalition seemed marked by a new wariness of the Congress. But in the end, whatever the Congress score, it would have evolved internally—a long-overdue correction of its post-Mandal ideological drought. The BJP's internal processes are, for the moment, adjourned. That's for a future that will start on June 4.

AVERAGE JANES BLAZING A TRAIL ON SCREEN

OPINION

NAMRATA JOSHI
Consulting Editor
Follow her on X @Namrata_Joshi

AMOL Palekar's 1990 musical, *Thodasa Roomani Ho Jayen*, is one of the most underrated Hindi films. The story of a "*seedhi-saadi, maamooli ladki* (a simple, ordinary girl)" Binni is one in which several women might find their own reflection. Unable to live up to the impossible standards of beauty, the baggy shirt and trouser-clad tomboy Binni can't fathom how to be ladylike, and lacks self-confidence despite the love and support of an empathetic father. Her journey into being able to believe in herself makes for an evergreen feel-good film whose leitmotif is encapsulated in the title song—"*Jeena hai mushkil, ummeed ke bina, thode se sapne sajayein* (it's impossible to live without hope, lets embellish it with a few dreams)."

Kiran Rao's recently released sophomore film, *Laapataa Ladies*, ends on a note that underscores, in much the same way, the importance for women to have hopes and expectations of and for themselves—"*Sapna dekhne ki maafi nahin maangte* (one must never be apologetic about nursing dreams for oneself)."

Further back in 1966, Waheeda Rehman's Rosie in Vijay Anand's *Guide* nailed it on breaking free from her claustrophobic marriage with Marco (Kishore Sahu) when she danced in abandon to "*Koi na roko dil ki udaan ko* (don't curb the flight of a soaring heart)."

Set decades apart, these films are about Average Janes being able to find themselves and their purpose in life. One is a classic that was way ahead of its time for its frank portrayal of marital estrangement and infidelity. Second, a middle-of-the-road, small film that might seem technically frayed today, but its thematic core hasn't aged at all. The latest, while staying authentic to its rural milieu, has been forging a universal connect with women (and men).

With the male skew peaking at the box office last year and women getting edged out of big screens to the confines of streaming platforms, these women-next-door, who have come to populate streaming platforms and cinema halls of late, have brought a much-needed breath of fresh air.

Last year, we had Hansal Mehta's *Scoop*, about crime journalist Jagruti Pathak's (Karishma Tanna) quest to prove her innocence on being accused of complicity in the murder of journo Jaideb Sen (Prosenjit Chatterjee).

Reema Kagti and Ruchika Oberoi's *Dahaad* on Prime Video, about a bunch of cops chasing a serial killer in a caste-ridden, patriarchal and misogynistic Mandwa in Rajasthan, had sub-inspector Anjali Bhaati (Sonakshi Sinha) at its core. She is defying familial and societal expectations of marriage, gender prejudice at work, and the larger caste-based discrimination on top of all else.

Yashowardhan Mishra's *Kathal* was about the case of two missing jackfruits that, in turn, became a farcical exploration of the ludicrous law enforcement and caste politics in North India captured from the view of inspector Mahima Basoor (Sanya Malhotra).

Last year, women got edged out of big screens to streaming platforms. But there is a new set of films and shows that place the common woman at the heart. They stand on the shoulder of some classics made decades ago

Through the years, women-centric films have taken a different direction from the traditional expectations of them. The classic that Mehboob Khan's *Mother India* is, over a period it also created its own stereotype in defining strong on-screen women. We came to identify women-centric films as epic narratives about suffering and sacrificing women for whom marriage, kids, family, community and society trumped over self. Gradually it made way for another kind of cinema such as *Mirch Masala*, *Arth* and *Sparsh*, with feisty women taking on patriarchy and rebelling against institutions, including marriage.

However, the present lot is not about larger-than-life superwomen. They inspire and empower by being who they truly are—everywomen, rooted and real. They hark back to the likes of Deepa getting confused about her feelings for two men in Basu Chatterji's *Rajnigandha* (1974). Or the free-spirited student Radha in Pradeep Krishen's *In Which Annie Gives It Those Ones* (1989).

With *Laapataa Ladies* and *Love Storiyaan*, we see humour emerging as a tool of spirited subversion. The former is sharp and satirical but not sanctimonious, dealing with significant feminist issues but with a deft, light, delightful touch that doesn't alienate men.

Love Storiyaan, on six real-life couples' journey of togetherness, also sees women take centre-stage, but with their blithe spirit intact. These are common women in an uncommon pursuit of love, having agency in their relationships. Subhadra Kharpede's romance with Rahul Banerjee broke the barriers of caste but her quest for making space for herself was her own, negotiated without her husband's name.

While being mindful of the minefields that women face everyday, these stories are cynicism-free and offer us the things we need most: positivity and hope.

QUOTE CORNER

Who's appearing for the State Bank of India? In our judgement, we had directed disclosure specifically of all details of the bonds, including the purchaser, the amount and the date of purchase. They have not disclosed the bond numbers. That had to be disclosed by SBI.

D Y Chandrachud, Chief Justice of India, referring to the alphanumeric details embedded on electoral bonds which help to connect the buyer with the beneficiary

The world has changed radically since October 7, and the Israeli people are being stifled right now by a governing vision that is stuck in the past

Chuck Schumer, US Senate Majority Leader and seniormost Jewish official in the US administration, rebuking Benjamin Netanyahu and calling for fresh election in Israel

This game puts you under pressure and you have to keep learning from it. When we lost my wicket, our batters could not hold their nerve. That was the turning point.

Harmanpreet Kaur, Mumbai Indians captain, after a five-run loss to RCB that eliminated Mumbai from the Women's Premier League 2024

MAILBAG WRITE TO letters@newindianexpress.com

Mayawati's challenge

Ref: *The curious case of Mayawati and the Dalit vote* (Mar 16). BSP supremo Mayawati needs to understand the changing world and adopt new strategies according to the current situation in politics. In the ensuing Lok Sabha election, the challenges are many and her prospects are bleak.

P Victor Selvaraj, Palayamkottai

Bond disclosure

I agree with the Supreme Court that the State Bank of India must disclose the unique codes of electoral bonds. The bank certainly seemed hand-in-gloves with the ruling party while dilly-dallying the disclosures to the Election Commission. Even now, the SBI has withheld the unique alphanumeric codes assigned to each bond that can link it to donors. People can easily understand the implications and act accordingly when it is time to vote.

K Nehru Patnaik, Visakhapatnam

Passing buck

The SC deserves accolades for squishing the SBI for not revealing the unique codes of electoral bonds. Though Home Minister Amit Shah said the system aimed to eradicate the role of black money, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman escaped responsibility by saying it was introduced by her predecessor.

Rajakumar Arulanandham, Tirunelveli

Better solution

The concept behind electoral bonds was sound and had some basis in lessening the widespread use of black money, but it may have fallen outside the track of transparency. Criticising the government on the issue does not solve the problem. Rather, it's time to find a solution for a better scheme.

Jitendranath Guru, Padampur

Pot, kettle

It is natural that the ruling party is a popular choice among common people as well as businessmen. Where is the question of loot in this? It is amusing to see politicians from scam-tainted parties like the Congress talking about the so-called loot through electoral bonds, forgetting their own past record. If this is loot, other parties that got funds through the scheme can also be similarly charged.

V S Ganeshan, Bengaluru

Unconstitutional act

It seems the Congress and other opposition parties are trembling at the BJP's every action. The Citizenship Amendment Act has nothing to do with the rights of Muslims or others. But the opposition has created trends to scare people. Tamil Nadu CM M K Stalin, who says he will not implement it in his state, may not realise his actions would be against the Constitution.

V Venkitasubramanian, Coimbatore

Selective injustice

Illegal migration of both Hindus and Muslims has been going on from Bangladesh right from the days of partition. Many are permanently settled in West Bengal, Assam and other Northeastern states. Legalising such migrations by providing citizenship to all except Muslims is unjustified and needs to have a relook on humanitarian grounds.

N A Joseph, Ettumanoor

Kejriwal message

ED's arrest of the BRS's K Kavitha in the Delhi excise policy case is unjustified. Arrests are made when there is an apprehension that the concerned person may escape or tamper with evidence. There is no possibility of Kavitha doing either. The ED seems to be sending a strong message to Arvind Kejriwal with this arrest. The underlying message is to opposition leaders that they are not safe till polling is done.

K R Jayaprakash Rao, Mysuru

Decongest roads

Most people are using personal vehicles for travelling these days, due to which there is an increase in road congestion. To protect our atmosphere from toxic gases, it is recommended that we use public transport as much as possible. We all need to change our attitude for a better environment.

Krishnaprasad S R, Kozhikode

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Amit Shah @AmitShah
PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana will fortify the nation's energy sufficiency by making individual households self-reliant in meeting their energy needs.

Omar Abdullah @OmarAbdullah
So much for 'One Nation One Election'. The EC is unable to conduct assembly polls in J&K with the general election even when they acknowledge that elections are due.

Prashant Bhushan @pbhushan1
The anti-corruption plank is dramatically slipping from under Modi's feet as revelations about the real nature of anonymous electoral bonds are coming thick & fast.

ELECTION 2024 DECIDE

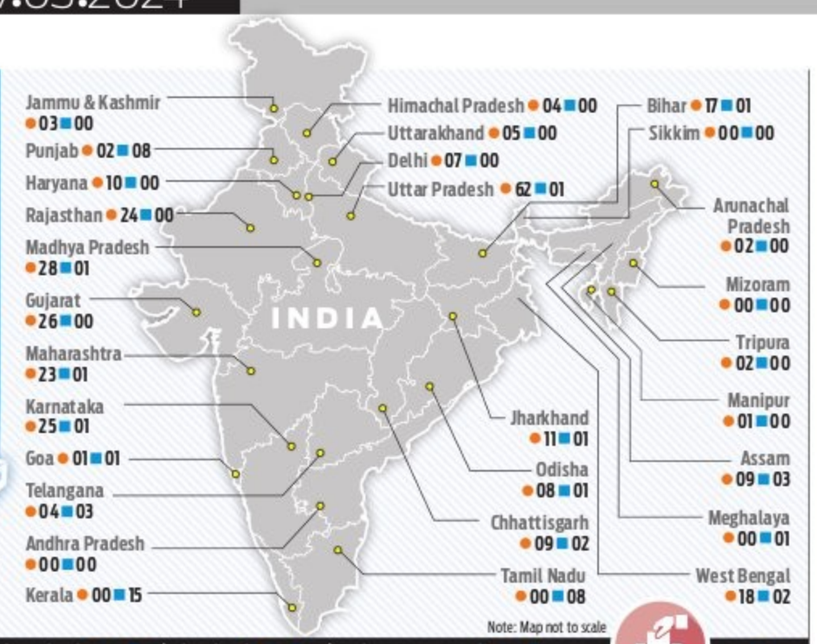
1.8 cr
first-time voters (in the age group of 18-19 years) enrolled for general elections this year

88.4 L
persons with disabilities and 48,000 transgender persons are set to cast their votes this time

HOW THEY SCORED IN 2019

The BJP got 37.36% of vote share in 2019 parliamentary polls, the highest won by a political party since the 1989 general elections

(Data excludes results of bypolls held after 2019 general elections)


INDIA
Jammu & Kashmir ● 03 ■ 00
Punjab ● 02 ■ 08
Haryana ● 10 ■ 00
Rajasthan ● 24 ■ 00
Madhya Pradesh ● 28 ■ 01
Gujarat ● 26 ■ 00
Maharashtra ● 23 ■ 01
Karnataka ● 25 ■ 01
Goa ● 01 ■ 01
Telangana ● 04 ■ 03
Andhra Pradesh ● 00 ■ 00
Kerala ● 00 ■ 15
Himachal Pradesh ● 04 ■ 00
Uttarakhand ● 05 ■ 00
Delhi ● 07 ■ 00
Uttar Pradesh ● 62 ■ 01
Bihar ● 17 ■ 01
Sikkim ● 00 ■ 00
Arunachal Pradesh ● 02 ■ 00
Mizoram ● 00 ■ 00
Tripura ● 02 ■ 00
Manipur ● 01 ■ 00
Assam ● 09 ■ 03
Meghalaya ● 00 ■ 01
West Bengal ● 18 ■ 02
Jharkhand ● 11 ■ 01
Odisha ● 08 ■ 01
Chhattisgarh ● 09 ■ 02
Tamil Nadu ● 00 ■ 08
Note: Map not to scale
Andaman & Nicobar Islands ● 00 ■ 01 | Chandigarh ● 01 ■ 00 | Dadra & Nagar Haveli ● 00 ■ 00
Daman & Diu ● 01 ■ 00 | Lakshadweep ● 00 ■ 00 | Nagaland ● 01(NDA) ■ 00 | Puducherry ● 00 ■ 01
● BJP ■ INC

UNITED STANCE

Here's a look at the alliances stitched by the ruling and opposition parties across states this time

INDIA BLOC
- **Uttar Pradesh** (Congress +Samjawadi party (SP)
- **Maharashtra** MVA (Congress + Shiv Sena (UBT) +NCP)
- **Bihar** (Congress + RJD+ CPM+CPI)
- **Delhi** (Congress +AAP)
- **Madhya Pradesh** (Congress +SP)
- **Gujarat** (Congress +AAP)
- **Tamil Nadu** (DMK+ Congress +CPM+CPI)
- **Goa** (Congress +AAP)
- **Jharkhand** (Congress +JMM)

NDA
- **Bihar** (BJP + JDU +LJP)
- **Maharashtra** (BJP+NCP (Ajit Pawar faction) +Shiv Sena (Shinde)
- **Andhra Pradesh** (BJP+TDP+JSP
- **Odisha** (BJP +BJD)

BJP

SCOREBOARD & PROMISES
- Last 10 years' performances
- Ram temple construction
- Implementation of CAA
- Women's Reservation Act
- 6 flagship schemes including Ujjwala Yojana, Kisan Samman Nidhi, PM Awas Yojana, Vande Bharat trains, Chandrayan-III launch, New Parliament construction
- Vision 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047
- Promise to make India world's third largest economy in 5 years

SALVOS AT OPPN
- Dynastic politics
- Appeasement politics
- Opposition leaders in corruption cases
- Opposition boycott of Ram temple consecration
- Anti-Sanatan Dharma remarks

CONGRESS

PROMISES
- 'Nari Nyay' guarantees for women
- 'Pehli Naukri Pakki' for youths
- 'Share of Justice' guarantees Dalits, tribals, minorities and weaker sections
- 'Labour Justice' guarantees for workers
- 'Kisan Nyay' guarantees for farmers
- Nationwide caste census
- Fight against hatred

SHOTS AGAINST GOVT
- Electoral bonds row
- EVM-VVPATs mismatch
- Rising inflation
- Rising unemployment
- Glitches in Agniveer scheme
- Farmers' unrest

Bypolls for 26 constituencies

By-elections to 26 assembly seats across 13 states, including six constituencies in Himachal Pradesh where Congress MLAs were disqualified for rebellion, will be held along with the Lok Sabha elections beginning April 19. "By-elections will be held in Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Telangana, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu," Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar said at a press conference.

Modi readies party and allies for 3rd term as INDIA bloc attempts to project a united force

BJP plans to go whole hog against Oppn on corruption, dynasty

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

AS the battle lines for the Lok Sabha elections have been drawn with the announcement of the 7-phase polls, the BJP is learnt to have suggested its NDA allies to take on the Opposition on corruption, nepotism, dynastic and appeasement politics.

"A public movement needs to be raised against corruption being encouraged by the Opposition. Equally strongly, we must make the people aware as to how the Opposition has been misleading the people by wrongly trusting their leaders for decades. We should expose them on issues that plagued the country's economy and governance for a long time," remarked a senior BJP leader.

He said the Modi government's performance in the past 10 years has reflected a vision to make India 'Viksit-Bharat' by 2047. Party sources said the track record of good governance coupled with records of performances in all sectors would be the USP for NDA in seeking the third term with more than 400 seats.

As the NDA mascot, Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared on X, "The biggest festival of democracy is here! EC has announced the 2024 Lok Sabha election dates. We, the BJP-led NDA, are fully prepared. We are going to the people on the basis of our track record of good governance and service delivery across sectors."

In another post, Modi spoke about a roadmap. "I can see that the coming five years will be about our collective resolve of establishing the road map that will guide our trajectory as a nation for the next thousand years and make India the embodiment of global leadership".

Expecting the youth, women and the poor to support him for the third term, Modi said he derived strength from people's blessings, including women, youth and farmers.

"When they say 'mai Modi ka parivar' it fills me with joy and makes me work harder to build a Viksit-Bharat. This is the era to make it happen and together we will – ye hi samay hai, sahi samay hai (this is the right time)," Modi wrote.

In a swipe at the Opposition, Modi termed it "rudderless and issueless." "All they can do is abuse us and practise vote-bank politics. Their dynastic approach and attempts to divide society are not being accepted. Equally hurting them is their corruption track record. People don't want such a leadership," Modi said.

Meanwhile, BJP's principal poll strategist Amit Shah said: " PM Modi has demonstrated a fierce commitment to development by ending the politics of dynasty, corruption, appeasement from the country's political system and focusing on the development of all sections."

The BJP is working hard to make its presence felt well in South India. In recent times, the PM has travelled across southern states for more than 20 times.

The biggest festival of democracy is here! EC has announced the 2024 Lok Sabha election dates. We, the BJP-NDA, are fully prepared for elections

Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

SECOND LONGEST

The voting period for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, spread over 44 days, is the second longest after the first genral elections of 1951-52 that lasted more than four months. The shortest voting was in 1980, just four days.

BUSTING FAKE NEWS

The EC will use a two-pronged strategy to deal with misinformation and fake narratives on social media during the Lok Sabha polls. It will soon launch a 'Myth vs Reality' project to clear the air around fake news online.

'Tech ready, time not ripe'

A technology to link a number of EVMs and hide booth-wise voting patterns is ready with the Election Commission but the time to implement the idea has not come yet, CEC Rajiv Kumar said on Saturday. The totaliser is a technology to link a number of polling machines and combine the results. "But here, people do not have faith in the result of one machine," Kumar said.

'Battleready' INDIA faces an uphill task

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

AS the road to 2024 begins, it may prove to be an uphill battle for the Opposition alliance INDIA bloc in its face-off against the formidable BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) in the high-stake Lok Sabha elections.

For the embattled Congress, the principal player in the Opposition bloc, the narrative for 2024 is mainly woven around the Nyay guarantees for various sections of the society against the NDA's 'Modi ki guarantee'. The party may also capitalise on the revelations by the State Bank of India on the electoral bond scheme, which benefitted the BJP. The scheme was struck down by the court as unconstitutional.

The grand old party is also hopeful of gaining some electoral dividends from the second leg of Bharat Jodo Yatra, undertaken by former Congress president Rahul Gandhi. The yatra will be concluded on Sunday with a mammoth rally of the INDIA bloc constituents. Though the Opposition may be trying to send out a message of unity through its rally, the grouping is still struggling to overcome the internal contradictions.

The first major blow to the bloc was the exit of Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, who joined the NDA camp. Kumar, the architect of the alliance, was apparently peeved with the delay in seat-sharing talks.

However, recovering from the initial shock, the bloc has successfully stitched a few alliances in states like Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Goa, among others.

A senior leader points out that though the alliance was formed as the first step towards creating a viable alternative to the BJP for the 2024 election, it failed to build a narrative and a common agenda for the parties. While the Congress sealed alliances with the SP and AAP after prolonged talks, the party is still hoping to ally with TMC in West Bengal. The defeat of the Congress in the Hindi heartland states in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh further deepened the rift among the partners.

The crucial question for the alliance is whether they will be able to neutralise the BJP'S mission 400 battle cry with effective counter. The Congress, which is banking on the pitch for its five 'Nyay' guarantees, will be facing off with the BJP in 250 seats in Hindi speaking states. Whether these guarantees will result in the Opposition's electoral resurgence, only time will tell.

SOURAV ROY

SUKHBIR SINGH SANDHU & N GYANESH KUMAR

TRUST WINS THE RACE AS POLL PANEL FINDS TEAMMATES

MUKESH RANJAN

SENIOR batchmates in bureaucracy make great pals, with the past just being past and the future looking perfectly perched post-retirement. Gyanesh Kumar and Sukhbir Singh Sandhu, the new election commissioners, raise equal amounts of expectations — except the time when they were chosen. The 1988-batch IAS officers — Kumar comes from the Kerala cadre and Sandhu from Uttarakhand cadre — replace Arun Goel, who abruptly resigned, and Anup Chandra Pandey, who retired on February 14. It was Goel's exit that created a storm for two reasons: first, he quit when the EC was about to announce the dates for parliamentary polls and, second, the EC was left with a solitary poll manager, the Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar. The government's last-minute appointments of ECs raised Congress heckles.

NEWSMAKER

It was learnt that the selection panel headed by Prime Minister, with Union Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal and leader of Congress in the Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury being the two other members, selected Kumar and Sandhu from among the six names shortlisted from over 200 candidates that reportedly came up before a search committee.

All said and done, the poll panel with CEC Rajiv Kumar, a 1984-batch retired IAS officer of Jharkhand cadre, is in full strength. It would be safe to assume that PM's trust on both the retired IAS officers got them the coveted jobs. They, however, are also known for their astute bureaucratic skills — patience, perseverance and resilience.

Gyanesh Kumar has the distinction of working closely with Home Minister Amit Shah. He, as a joint secretary in the Jammu & Kashmir division of Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), played a key role in bridging the gap between the then office of J&K Governor Satyapal Malik and the Centre at a time when the government decided to do away with the provisions of Article 370.

Kumar further passed the patience test when he was denied empanelment as Additional Secretary (AS) in the first list and later empanelled as AS-Equivalent. On his empanelment as Secretary, in the first review list, he was appointed the parliamentary affairs secretary, generally considered a shunting post.

Kumar was soon moved to the newly created Ministry of Cooperation under Shah as its Secretary. His tenure was seen as a reward amid an indication that the government would reward him with some key position post-retirement.

His tenure in the cooperation ministry saw many new initiatives being taken by the government, which included the Multi-State Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Act, 2023, and the formation of three new national cooperative bodies — Bharatiya Beej Sahkari Samiti Limited, National Cooperative Organics Limited, and National Cooperative Export Limited. He also played a crucial role in the timely launch of the CRCS-Sahara refund portal for the submission of claims by depositors of four multi-state cooperative societies of Sahara Group.

Kumar also served as Joint Secretary (defence production) in the Ministry of Defence from 2007 to 2012 during the UPA government.

Sandhu is seen as one of the most versatile officers. He brings in a vast experience in administration as secretary to then Punjab CM Parkash Singh Badal, Principal Secretary to then Uttarakhand CM Harish Rawat, the chairman of the National Highways Authority of India, and Chief Secretary of Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhami.

Having completed his extended tenure as chief secretary on January 31, 2024, the Centre picked him for the prime post of secretary to the Lokpal on a contract basis for a year. Since he has proved his mettle in varied roles in the government as one of the most trusted officers, Modi government has now rewarded him with the coveted post of Election Commissioner.

It is perhaps the first time that two ECs are of the same batch, leaving the question on who will succeed CEC Rajiv Kumar when he completes his tenure in April 2025.

There are two views in the bureaucratic circles: a section believes that their seniority would be decided by the merit list of the batch; another section argues that the yardstick won't apply after retirement and the two batchmates will have to compete to fit into the CEC's shoes.

Navy foils Somali pirates' bid to hijack ships

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

AN Indian Navy warship intercepted a merchant vessel, which was converted into a mothership by the Somali pirates to hijack vessels plying through the region, the Navy said on Saturday.

The Navy said it thwarted "designs of Somali pirates to hijack ships plying through the region by intercepting ex-MV Ruen."

Merchant Vessel MV Ruen is the same vessel that had been hijacked by Somali pirates on December 14 last year and was reported to have sailed out as a pirate ship on high seas, the Navy said.

On Friday, the vessel was intercepted by an Indian Navy warship but the pirates onboard the vessel "opened fire".

In response, the Indian Navy "is taking actions as per international law, in self defence and to counter piracy, with minimal force necessary to neutralise the pirates' threat to shipping and seafarers." The pirates onboard the vessel have been called upon to surrender and release the vessel and any civilians they may be holding against their will.

"We remain committed to maritime security and safety of seafarers in the region," the Navy said.

As reported earlier by this newspaper, MV Ruen with 18 sailors onboard gave a distress signal on December 14, 2023, and indicated that six pirates had boarded the vessel.

The Indian Navy became the first responder. The Navy deployed its maritime patrol aircraft P8i to track the movement of the hijacked vessel, which was moving towards the coast of Somalia. After the aircraft located the vessel, the Navy diverted its warship from the Gulf of Aden, and the hijacked vessel was intercepted on the morning of December 16.

Later, the Navy on Monday rendered assistance in evacuating an injured crew member from MV Ruen, the Maltese-flagged merchant vessel hijacked by pirates in the Arabian Sea. The hijackers took the vessel to the Somali waters.

Marine Commandos carried out a major operation to rescue the crew of merchant vessel MV Ruen from Somali pirates | x

Centre extends DDT production for 5 more yrs to meet demand from Africa

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @ New Delhi

THE Centre has decided to continue production of DDT (Dichloro diphenyl Trichloroethane) for another five years though the deadline to phase out the deadly chemical is ending this year under the Stockholm Convention, officials said.

The Convention outlawed the production and use of DDT limiting it to mosquito control. Senior officials said demand from African countries made India to continue DDT. The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) will inform the Convention secretariat in September about the decision.

Developed in the 1940s and used to control vector-borne diseases like malaria and typhus, it was soon realised DDT is a potential carcinogen. Despite being banned in agriculture use in 1972, India continued using it to control vector-borne diseases.

MoEF&CC has received consent from the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals (DCP) for continuing DDT production to meet its export obligations.

Currently, Hindustan Insecticide Ltd (HIL) is under obligation to meet the demand of 36 MT from five African countries by March-end.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW), a major buyer of DDT to control vector-borne disease, has said it does not need the chemical further as alternatives are available. Moreover, MoH&FW has stocked 578 MT of DDT.

"MoH&FW didn't give a new order to the sole manufacturer Hindustan Insecticide, whereas DCP is under obligations to meet the demands from African countries," said Ved Prakash Mishra, director, hazardous substances management, MoEF&CC.

Besides being toxic to environment, studies show mosquitoes are developing resistance to DDT. India has been working on environment-friendly alternatives. A joint project with UN agency UNIDO will come up with world's first neem-based biopesticides and Bt (Bacillus thuringiensis)-based biopesticides. "Its commercial production would be started by the end of 2025 as we are setting up the facility," said an official at HIL.

POLL IN J'KHAND

Bypolls to Gandey assembly constituency in Jharkhand will be held on May 20 alongwith parliamentary elections to constituencies in the state. The seat in Giridih fell vacant after JMM MLA Sarfaraz Ahmad resigned.

3 OPERATIVES OF GANGSTER GOLDY BRAR HELD IN ZIRAKPUR

Ahmedabad	35	21	Mumbai	31	24
Bhopal	32	19	Panaji	33	23
Jaipur	30	18	Patna	33	21
Amritsar	29	13	Lucknow	31	14
Chennai	31	27	Port Blair	30	25
Kolkata	31	24	Imphal	29	14
Srinagar	14	03	Chandigarh	29	15

162 constituencies in 7 phases across 3 states in 44 days

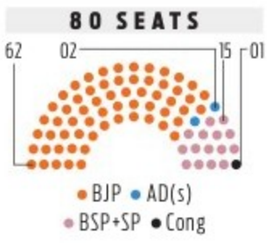
UTTAR PRADESH

On high-stake 80 seats, Varanasi, Gorakhpur go to polls in last phase

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

WITH the notification for Lok Sabha elections issued by the Election Commission on Saturday, Uttar Pradesh, politically the biggest state of the country, will witness voting across all seven phases starting from April 19 and ending on June 1.

UP sends 80 members, including the Prime Minister, to the lower house of Parliament. Varanasi, where Prime Minister Narendra Modi is a candidate, and Gorakhpur, considered the stronghold of CM Yogi Adityanath, will vote in the seventh and last phase on June 1.



Adityanath had represented Gorakhpur in Lok Sabha from 1998 till 2014, and the seat is now represented by Bhojpuri actor Ravi Kishan.

While the BJP has repeated Ravi Kishan in Gorakhpur, the Samajwadi Party has fielded model Kajal Nishad.

State capital Lucknow, once the stronghold of former PM late Atal Bihari Vajpayee and now represented by defence minister Rajnath Singh, will vote in the fifth phase, along with Rae Bareli and Amethi, the Gandhi family bastions, on May 20.

Ayodhya and the four seats of Bundelkhand region will also go to polls in the fifth phase. Voting in the Samajwadi Party's strongholds will be held in the third and fourth phases — Mainpuri, Etah and Firozabad under Agra division in the third on May 7, and Etawah and Kannauj in the fourth on May 13.

Dimple Yadav, SP chief Akhilesh Yadav's wife, is sitting MP from Mainpuri. In the first phase, 8 seats of western UP, including constituency number 1 Saharanpur and Rampur, bastion of SP's jailed leader Azam Khan will vote on April 19. Eight seats will vote in second phase on April 26 and 10 in third phase on May 7.

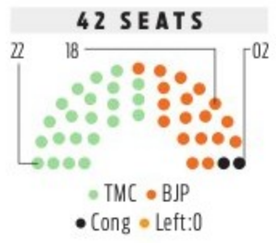
WEST BENGAL

Staggered polling for 42 seats will surely help BJP, says peeved TMC

PRANAB MONDAL @ Kolkata

WEST Bengal's 42 Lok Sabha constituencies will vote in seven phases in the 18th general elections starting from April 19 and ending on June 1.

The Election Commission (EC)'s decision to conduct the elections in seven phases drew sharp criticism from Mamata Banerjee's TMC, saying the polling in so many phases would be advantageous to the BJP.



However, all opposition parties—BJP, Congress and CPI(M) — welcomed the EC's decision.

"We have noticed that more voters turn out to exercise their franchise if there are fewer number of phases. This is why we demanded polling in a single phase. Gujarat, Kerala and Tamil Nadu are big states but they are voting in one phase. Why so many phases for Bengal?" said TMC minister Chandrima Bhattacharya.

Party sources said the TMC chief would make the seven-phase poll in Bengal an issue in the campaigns, portraying it an attempt to defame Bengal as a volatile state.

"She will stress that political parties like the BJP with deeper pockets are at an advantage over others when it comes to multi-phase polling. She will also cite examples of states with similar geographical size voting in a single phase," said a senior TMC leader.

Welcoming the EC's decision, BJP's state president Sukanta Majumdar said: "We are happy with the EC's polls schedule. The way voters are intimidated in Bengal, there should have been more phases. TMC's muscle power will not work this time," he said.

State Congress chief Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and CPI(M)'s Sujan Chakrabarty also expressed their happiness over the EC's decision.

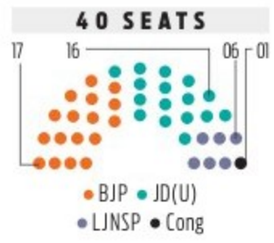
BIHAR

Allies-turned-foes fight it out for 40 seats in battle for Pataliputra

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

THE Election Commission of India (ECI) on Saturday announced the schedule for the Lok Sabha elections with Bihar going to the polls in seven phases. Former allies-turned-foe RDJ's Lalu Prasad and JD(U)'s Nitish Kumar will be seen battling it out for 40 seats in the polls.

The main opposition party RJD, however, faces a challenge to put up a good show in the election after drawing a blank in the 2019 general elections.



As per the schedule issued by the EC, the first phase of election will be held on April 19, second -- April 26, third -- May 7, fourth -- May 13, fifth -- on May 20, sixth – on May 25 and seventh phase on June 1.

The first phase will be held in the districts which have been identified as Maoist hit. The notification for the first phase will be issued on March 20. Last date of filing of nomination for the first phase is March 28. The counting of votes will be held on June 4.

A total of 7,64,33,329 electorate are eligible to exercise their franchise in the state. Of them, 4,29,00,136 are male and 3,64,01,903 female. There are 2,209 transgenders.

In 2019 Lok Sabha elections, the NDA had won 39 out of 40 seats. The lone seat of Kishanganj had gone to Congress. RJD had failed to open its account in the election.

By-election to the Agiaon assembly constituency in Bhojpur district will be held in the seventh phase.

The bypoll was necessitated after the incumbent CPI(ML) MLA Manoj Manjil lost membership of the assembly following his conviction in a murder case. The Parliamentary constituencies of Aurangabad, Gaya, Nawada and Jamui will go to the polls in the first phase.

CHHATTISGARH

Bipolar battle in three-phase tight contest

Maoists step up attacks in Bastar, targets BJP

Recently, Maoists have stepped up their attacks to create terror in south Bastar and targeted BJP leaders. According to police, two dozen people including four BJP leaders and at least 12 security personnel were killed by Maoists in Bastar since November 2023

EJAZ KAISER @ Raipur

CHHATTISGARH, where assembly polls were held in November last year, is set to see a bipolar contest between the ruling BJP and the Congress across the 11 Lok Sabha seats.

Maoists' threat apparently led the Election Commission to hold elections in three phases in Chhattisgarh. The polling in the Maoist-hit restive Bastar will be held in the first phase on April 19.

Voting in the second phase on April 26 will cover Kanker, Rajnandgaon (adjoining Maharashtra's Gadchiroli having strong presence of Maoists) and Mahasamund (sharing borders with Odisha and districts of Dhamtari, Gariyaband where Maoists' movements were reported).

Third phase polling on May 7 will cover the remaining constituencies of central and north Chhattisgarh — Sarguja, Raipur, Bilaspur, Raigarh, Korba, Janjgir, and Durg. To conduct polls in the sensitive and hypersensitive areas, elaborate security managements will be put in place, officials said.

In recent months Maoists have stepped up their attacks to create terror in south Bastar and targeted BJP leaders. According to police, two dozen people including four BJP leaders and at least 12 security personnel were killed by Maoists in Bastar zone since November last year.

Since 1998 the BJP has won 10 of the eleven seats barring the 2019 elections when it bagged nine constituencies and two went to the Congress.

The BJP back in power in the state has taken a lead to launch 'Vijay Sankalp Shankhnad Rally' by union home minister Amit Shah and declaring candidates for all 11 seats. The Congress has so far announced six names, including former CM Bhupesh Baghel. However, it remains to be seen how the BJP that keeps its campaign alive on 'Modi Ki Guarantee' slogan is able to retain the trust of masses.

ASSAM

On Himanta's plea, polls after Rongali Bihu

'Displaced people to vote from relief camps'

Strife-torn Manipur and Tripura, which have two seats each, will go to polls in the first two phases. Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar said people displaced by the ethnic violence in Manipur will be voting from their relief camps.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Guwahati

THE Lok Sabha elections in Assam will be held during the month-long celebration of Rongali Bihu, also called Bohag Bihu. When a delegation of the Election Commission visited Assam recently, the state's BJP-led government had requested it to wind up the poll process in the state before Rongali Bihu which marks the beginning of the Assamese new year.

The month-long celebration begins on April 13. Assam has 14 seats and the polls will be held in the first three phases – April 19, 26 and May 7.

Strife-torn Manipur and Tripura, which have two seats each, will go to polls in the first two phases. Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya (they too have two seats each), Nagaland, Mizoram and Sikkim (one seat each) will have one-phase polls on April 19. Manipur: Displaced people to vote from relief camps – Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar said people displaced by the ethnic violence in Manipur would vote from their relief camps.

"We have drawn a scheme which we have notified. We notified the scheme to allow voters in the camps to vote from their respective camps," Kumar said.

"My appeal to the voters is let's decide through the ballot, peacefully, by participating in the elections. We will make the arrangements," he added.

The ethnic violence between Meiteis and Kukis displaced over 60,000 people. They are lodged in various relief camps in the state. Several thousand others are taking shelter in adjoining Mizoram.

Chief Minister N Biren Singh wrote on X, "The BJP-led NDA is all set to continue its momentum of bringing unprecedented growth and development in the country. With the announcement of the 2024 Lok Sabha election dates by the EC, we are fully prepared to serve the masses once again with support and cooperation from all sections."

Maha dilemma: MVA, MahaYuti scramble to clinch seat deal

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

THE ruling MahaYuti and the opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi continued to scramble to complete seat-sharing talks on a day the ED announced the parliamentary poll schedule.

Sources said Chief Minister Ekanth Shinde along with his deputy CM Ajit Pawar is likely to fly to Delhi to meet the top BJP leadership before giving final touches to the MahaYuti seat-sharing formula.

"It is almost done: 30 seats for the BJP, 11 for Shiv Sena (Shinde) and seven for the NCP (Ajit Pawar). We have taken feedback, besides receiving a survey report. The BJP wants to have the lion's share in the 48 Lok Sabha seats," said a senior BJP leader.

He said there will be honourable seat adjustment among the MahaYuti allies. "Wracking our brains on a couple of

seats will damage us in transferring votes. We are being extra careful," said another senior BJP leader.

CM Shinde hoped that seat sharing will take place amicably. An NCP (Ajit Pawar) leader said no one wants to contest against the party as an independent due to the large voter size.

On the other hand, Sharad Pawar met Congress general secretary KC Venugopal, state Congress in-charge Ramesh Chennithela and senior Congress leader Balasaheb Thorat on Saturday at his residence.

"Pawar has been playing the peace-maker's role between Uddhav-led Shiv Sena and the Congress. Both are fighting over Kolhapur and Sangali Lok Sabha seat. Congress wants to contest both seats and they have strong candidates as well. But Shiv Sena argues that last time they had a sitting LS MP from Kolhapur and strong base in Sangali, so both seats should be given to them. He said Congress would contest 20 seats while Shiv Sena (UBT) 18, Sharad Pawar-led NCP will contest 10 Lok Sabha seats.

BJP MP quits party, may contest polls as independent in MP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhopal

JUST a few hours before the ECI announced the Lok Sabha polls schedule, ruling BJP suffered a setback in Vindhya region of Madhya Pradesh.

Unhappy over being denied a ticket from Sidhi seat of the region neighbouring eastern UP, Rajya Sabha member Ajay Pratap Singh quit the party.

He did so just 18 days before his Rajya Sabha tenure was to expire.

While he hasn't disclosed his future plans, sources close to him have not ruled out the possibility of Singh contesting from the seat as an independent candidate.

Raj Cong exodus continues as leaders switch sides to BJP

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

IN a significant political development today in Rajasthan, 35 individuals, including over 18 Congress leaders, have switched allegiance to the BJP.

Notable figures among those making the transition include former Congress MP Karan Singh Yadav, two incumbent district chiefs, and former MLAs. The induction ceremony took place in Jaipur, where BJP State President CP Joshi presided over the event, officially welcoming the newcomers into the party fold.

Former MP from the Alwar Lok Sabha constituency, Dr Karan Singh Yadav, had been vying for the ticket. However, the Congress, expressing confidence in youth leader and Mandawar MLA Lalit Yadav, has named him as a candidate.

Dr Yadav had adopted was rebellious following Lalit's selection, reports suggesting that Yadav's ticket was canceled due to the influence of powerful Bhanwar Jitendra Singh.

2 ex-MLAs, former beauty queen join BJP in U'khand

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

THE trend of Congress leaders and former legislators resigning from the Uttarakhand Congress and joining the BJP continues. Two more former legislators and former Miss Grand International India Anukriti Gusain, who contested elections on a Congress ticket from Lansdowne, have also left the party.

Former Gangotri MLA Vijay Pal Sajwan and former Purola MLA Malchand have resigned from the primary membership of the Congress. The two former MLAs joined the BJP on Saturday in the presence of senior leaders.

Former MLA Sajwan said, "Comparatively the BJP currently has a better blueprint for direction and social reform than the Congress."

GUWAHATI DIARY

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR
Our correspondent in Guwahati
prasantamazumdar@newindianexpress.com

BJP targeted Cong with EC's help: Gaurav

Breaking his silence, Congress MP Gaurav Gogoi said the BJP targeted his Kaliabor constituency (now renamed as Kaziranga) through the delimitation exercise as the grand old party was virtually invincible in the seat. He said the Kaliabor seat of yesteryears, which was made up of 10 Assembly segments, was a Congress fortress and even if PM Narendra Modi had contested from there, he could not have defeated the Congress candidate. "If you ask me where I want to contest from, I would say erstwhile Kaliabor. For 30 years, my family contested from there. That's why, the BJP with the help of Election Commission demolished our (Congress') Kaliabor house," Gogoi told journalists.

Portal launch to help villages get roads

The Assam government will come up with a portal to help villages apply for roads. Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said any village, which has 250 households or a minimum population of 1,000, will be eligible to get a road. The government will compare the figure of population with the Census, 2011 data. He said this is as part of the state's preparation for next generation reform. "If a village needs a road, it won't have to go to a minister or an MLA. It will apply through the portal sharing the required details," Sarma said, adding, "Sometimes if a village does not have a good relationship with the local MLA, it does not get a road."

Candidates withdrawn to avoid division of votes

The AAP withdrew its Guwahati candidate for the Lok Sabha elections and asked the Congress to reciprocate in a similar manner. Earlier, AAP had named its Guwahati, Sonitpur and Dibrugarh candidates. Congress has announced the names of its 12 candidates. It left one seat (Dibrugarh) to ally Asom Jatiya Parishad (AJP) while no decision has been made yet on one seat. The AJP pitted its chief Lurinjyoti Gogoi against Union minister Sarbananda Sonowal in Dibrugarh. The AAP said the decision to withdraw the Guwahati candidate was made to avoid spilt of anti-BJP votes. "We made high sacrifice for the sake of opposition unity," AAP chief Bhaben Choudhury said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I the undersigned advocate on behalf of my clients **Sri Muniyappa S/o. Late Challappa @ Sallappa**, Aged about 70 years, and Other have filed petition mentioned R/at Bidalapura Village, Channarayapatna Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District have filed the above petition for the death certificate of one **Late.Challappa @ Sallappa S/o Late. Nanjundappa who died on 18.05.1983** at Bidalapura Village, Channarayapatna Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District if any 3rd parties who have objections may dispute regarding the same can appear before the Hon'ble Principal Civil Judge and J.M.F.C at Devanahalli and the date hearing on **12.07.2024 at 11.00 A.M in Crl.Mis.No.94/2024.**

By Order of the Court, Sd/- Chief Ministerial Officer
Civil Judge & JMFC Court, Devanahalli
Sri Nagesh M, Advocate

PUBLIC NOTICE

I undersigned Advocate on behalf of my clients **Sri.Lokesh s/o Late. Munichannappa, Smt. Ashwathamma W/o Lokesh, Manikanta. L. S/o Lokesh, Sri Kiran kumar.L. S/o Lokesh,** have filed this petition for obtaining the death certificate of **Smt.Gowrama W/o Late Munichannappa, was died on 01-03-2020** at A.Ranganathapura Village, Vijayapura Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, If any parties who have objections may dispute regarding the same can appear before the Hon'ble 2nd Addl. Civil Judge and JMFC at Devanahalli and the date of hearing **26-4-2024 at 11 A.M.in Crl.Misc.No. 102/2024.**

By Order of the Court, Sd/- Chief Ministerial Officer
Civil Judge & JMFC Court, Devanahalli
Sri Manikanta .L, Advocate

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E- Tender Notice No. COMML/MYS/16/2024
Dated : 13-03-2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Tender Invited for selection of Halt Agent at Chandragiri Koppa Halt Station situated between Mysuru-Bengaluru for a period of Five Years.

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 22-04-2024

For details log on :
www.swr.indianrailways.gov.in

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager
PUB/758/AAD/PRB/SWR/2023-24 **Mysuru**

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform that my client **Mr. Ravi R**, R/at: 149, Near Anjaneya Temple, Singasandra, Bangalore -560068, has lost Last Page of Original Registered Sale Deed dt. 23-01-2014, Document No. NMG-1-11450-2013-14, CD No. NMGD301, registered in the office of Sub-Registrar Nelamangala in respect of property bearing Site No. 62, Katha and Assessment No. 122/3, situated at Hanchipura Village, Kasaba Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District. In this regard my client has also preferred a police complaint on 15-03-2024 through Online vide LOST REPORT No. 0975788/2024, that my client has not created any charge over the property covered under the above said document. If found, the document may kindly be delivered to the undermentioned address, any objection from the concerned public will not be entertained or bind my client **after 07 days** from the date of this public notice.

Mahesh Kumar M.H. Advocate
No.56/A, 3rd Cross, 24th Main,
J. P. Nagar, 2nd Phase, Bangalore - 78
Mobile No.: 9686751274.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. 12-S&T/MYS/2023
Dated: 12-03-2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Name of work	Approx. Value
Comprehensive Annual Maintenance contract per Electronic interlocking systems of M/S HITACHI RAIL STS INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED-BENGALURU installed at Naganahalli, Ajjampur, Nagavangala, Birur, Arsikere, Mysuru, Kadur & Ballekere Station over Mysuru Division for Three Years.	Rs. 1,89,88,416/-

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 03-04-2024

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Signal &Telecommunications
PUB/753/AAD/PRB/SWR/2023-24 **Engineer Mysuru**

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public care hereby notified that my client **Smt. S. Kanchana,** W/o. B.R Mahesh Kumar, aged about 39 years, residing at No.22/2, 20th Cross, Bhuvaneshwari Nagara, Magadi Road, Bangalore-560 023, has lost/misplaced on 26-02-2024 she as made best effort in tracing the same but efforts are in vain. Further she lodged a police complaint in this regarding, the original Mother Deed dated 26-06-1991 registered in the office of the Central Sub-Registrar, Bengaluru North Taluk, Bengaluru, situated in respect of property No.851, new katha No.77, Old katha No.308, measuring 30 x 40 Sq.feet, situated at Andrahalli village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, Bengaluru, vide document No.919/1991-92 Book-I, 4556 Value 197-203 pages. Hence the public are hereby notified that if anyone are in possession of the afore said original documents, the same may be handed over to the undersigned **within 07 days** from the date of publication of this notice.

S.N. MANJUNATHA, B.A, LL.B,
ADVOCATE
No.615, 2nd floor, Maruthi Market,
Avenue Road, Bengaluru -560002,
Mob: 9535141502.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the general public that my client DR. HANUMANTHAIAH SUNILKUMAR, has negotiated to purchase the schedule property from its owners, viz., (1) Mrs. Zainab Shahzamani, D/o. Mohammed Ehtesham Ahmed, W/o. Dr. Mohamed Rahamathulla, R/at. Faculty of Pharmacy, King Khalid University, P O BOX 61421, Abha, Asir Province, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, permanent resident of No.111/7, 29th 'B' Cross Road, 4th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560011, (2) Mrs. Ashha Khairi Majid, D/o. Mr. T.M. Iftekhar Ahmed, W/o. Mr. Majidulla Khan Tareen, R/at. No.14, Khazi Street, Basavanaguddi, Bangalore-560004 and (3) Mr. Mohammed Ehtesham Ahmed, S/o late. T. M. Habeeb Ahmed Saheb, residing at No.16, 2nd Main, Siddiq Mohalla, Bannimantap B Layout, Bannimantap, Mysore, Karnataka-570015. Any person/s having any claim, right, interest over the schedule property is hereby called upon to lodge their claim/right/objections if any in writing with supporting documents with the undersigned within a period of 7 days of this notice. Failing which it shall be construed that there are no claims of any sort over the said property my client will proceed with the registration of the absolute sale deed.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the Ground Floor portion measuring 800 Square Feet along with 1/3rd undivided share, right, title and interest in the property i.e., bearing New No.111/7, (Old No.111), PID No.60-134-7, First Floor portion measuring 1000 Square Feet along with 1/3rd undivided share, right, title and interest in the property i.e., bearing New No.111/7/1, (Old No.111 and 111/6), PID No.60-134-7/1 and Second Floor portion measuring 1000 Square Feet along with 1/3rd undivided share, right, title and interest in the property i.e., bearing New No.111/7/2, (Old No.111), PID No.60-134-7/2, situated at 29th 'B' Cross Road, 4th Block, Jayanagar East, Bangalore-560011, having independent access provided with all amenities in the site measuring East to West (60+53)/2 Feet and North to South (24+26.5)/2 Feet, and the entire property being bounded on the;

East By : Road, **West By**: Property No.110,
North By : Property No.112 and
South By : Property No.113.

Shobhith N. Shetty,
Advocate, SNS LAW Chambers,
No.5, Silver Glade, 1st Floor,
Wellington Street, Richmond Town,
Bangalore-25. Tel: 080-41321563.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The notice is hereby given to public that our client Smt.Shwetha G is intending to purchase and mortgage the schedule property and avail loan from M/s. Repco Home Finance Limited [RHFL] Yelahanka Branch.

If any person or persons or financial institution or Bank has any claim over the schedule property or any person or persons claim any right, title or interest, over the schedule property, the same may be lodged with the undersigned within seven days from today, along with relevant documents, failing which it will be presumed that the schedule property is free from any such claim and any claim received thereafter will not bind my client and would not be considered by my client.

SCHEDULE:

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Site No.131, Khatha No.195, Assessment No.104, Situated at Laggere Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, presently within comes under the limits BBMP Ward No.69, Lavakusha nagar, and bounded on: East by: Property No.100, West by: Road, North by: Property No.130, South by: Property No.132. Measuring East to West: Northern Side: 43 ft, Southern Side: 46½ ft, North to South: Eastern Side: 19½ ft, Western Side: 26¼ft in all measuring 1023.6 sqft.

V.L. Associates
Advocates
No.56, Out House, 19th Main Road, 2nd Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560 010. Ph: 9481900851/ 9743323668.
Place: Bangalore Date: 16.03.2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients **Sri Naresh Surana & Sri Mahipal M Surana,** both are S/o Sri Mangilalji Surana Residing at No.436, 3rd floor, 56th Cross, 3rd Block, Beside Shanthi Sagar Hotel, Rajajinagar, Bangalore - 560010, are entered into agreement of sale on 20-02-2024 to purchase the below mentioned schedule property from its owners Smt Bharathi Singh W/o Late Mohan Singh N, Miss M. Vaishnavi Singh D/o Late Mohan Singh N & Kum. Harsheta Singh M, D/o Late Mohan Singh N, Since Minor represented by her Natural Guardian Mother Smt Bharathi Singh, all are Residing at No.7A, Vaishnavi Nilaya 52nd Cross, 4th Block, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru-560010.

Notice is hereby given for the information of the General Public that if any person/s having any right, title, interest or claim over the schedule property may lodge their objection/claim with the undersigned along with documentary proof in support of such objection/ claim within Seven **(07) days** from the date of this notice. If no such objections/claim is received by the undersigned within the said period, it shall be presumed that no one has any right, title, interest or objections/claim over the schedule property and my clients will proceed with the sale transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that Part & Parcel of Residential Site New Municipal No.68/2, Old Site No.7A, Situated at 52nd Cross, 4th Block, Property No.7A/68/2, Situated at 52nd Cross, 4th Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore, BBMP Ward No. 108, Old Ward No.22- Sriram Mandira, PID NO.22-17-68/2, erstwhile Siddaramanna Dhinne Layout, measuring East to West : 30 feet & North to South :40feet, totally measuring 1200 Sq. Feet, altogether with residential building consisting of Car Parking area at Ground floor, Duplex House in First Floor & Second floor & single house at Third Floor, R.C.C Roofed House, Granite Flooring, Jungle Wood Doors and & windows, with all Civic amenities, total built up area 2500 Sq feet, and bounded on: **East by:** Site No7, **West by:** C.I.T.B Land & Site No.8, **North by:** C.I.T.B Land, **South by:** Road.

Smt. KUSUMA .K. ADIGA, Advocate
No. 1946, II Main, 8th Cross, M. C. Layout,
Vijayanagar, Bangalore - 560 040
Mob: 9945301720, Date:16-03-2024

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II AT BANGALORE

New Premises at 4th Floor, Telephone House Building, Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore-560001

Original Application No. 1178/2022

Between :
BANK OF BARODA ...Applicant
AND
Sri. Shamshuddin K & Another
...Defendants

SUMMONS /NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993, BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

1. Mr. Shamsuddin.K. S/o Kwaja Mohiuddin, Having address at : No.35/1, 1st Main Dharmanna Garden, Dinnur, R.T.Nagar, Bangalore-560032 (PAN : KTLP59438E)
2. Mrs. Seema.N. W/o Shamsuddin.K. Having address at : No.35/1, 1st Main Dharmanna Garden, Dinnur, R.T.Nagar, Bangalore-560032
...Defendants

Whereas the Applicant has instituted an application/interlocutory application under section 19 of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institution Act, 1993, against the defendants for recovery of a sum of **Rs.57,26,188.94/-** (Rupees Fifty Seven Lakhs Twenty Six Thousand One Hundred Eighty Eight and Paise Ninety Four Only) with current and future interest, cost and other reliefs. You are hereby required to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication of the summons on or before **09.07.2024 at 10.30 AM** in the forenoon in person or by Pleader/ Advocate duly instructed as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default, the application/interlocutory will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on this **28.02.2023.**

Signature of the Officer
(Authorized to issue Summon)
Debts Recovery Tribunal-II
BANGALORE

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that **SRI.DEEPAK GANESH SHET & SMT.VANDANA DATTATREYA VERNEKAR** are the owners of immovable property mentioned in the schedule hereunder and they have lost original Sale Deed dated 3/11/2006 bearing Document No.28364/2023-24, Book-1, stored in CD 344 executed by Sri.Chikkagalaiah & his son Sri.Lakshman.T.C in favour of Smt.Sharada registered in the office of Sub-registrar, Kengeri, pertaining to the schedule property. In case anybody having any claims or in possession of the said document, shall inform the under singed and handover the same within **SEVEN DAYS** from the date of publication of this notice.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Khatha No.65/6, Thaverekere V.P.Khatha Sl.No.3374, situated at Thaverekere Village, Thaverekere Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, measuring east to west 40 feet and north to south 30 feet, totally 1200 Sq.ft and bounded on the : **East by:** Chikkagalaiah's property, **West by:** 15 feet Road, **North by :** 20 feet Road, **South by :** Chikkagalaiah's property.

N. JAGADEESH KUMAR, Advocate
No.30/1, 2nd Floor, 7th Cross,
Near NR Colony Bus Stand, Opp. Hotel Dwaraka,
Bangalore - 560019. *Cell # 9341261700.*

Miki Steel Works Private Limited

CIN-U27109KA1991PTC011583
Registered office: 21 C&D KIADB Industrial Area, Attibele, Bangalore-562107
Tel No.- 9243428920
Website: www.mikisteel.co.in
Email: blr@mikisteel.co.in

IN THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL BENGALURU BENCH, BENGALURU
C.A. (CAA) NO.32/BB/2023

In the matter of Sec 230 to 232 of the Companies Act, 2013 and applicable provisions of the Companies Act 2013 read with rules made there under
AND
In the matter of Scheme of Amalgamation of Shilpi Wire Rope Private Limited (Transferor Company) and Miki Steel Works Private Limited (Transferee Company) and their respective Shareholders and Creditors

NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS AND SHAREHOLDERS

Notice is hereby given that by an order dated March 13, 2024, the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal, Bengaluru Bench ("Tribunal") has inter-alia dispensed with the meeting(s) of the Secured/Unsecured Creditors and the Equity Shareholders of Miki Steel Works Private Limited (Transferee Company), subject to strict compliance of the conditions as laid down in the aforesaid order. Meetings of Unsecured Creditors and the Equity Shareholders of Shilpi Wire Rope Private Limited (Transferor Company) also dispensed with, without any conditions for the purpose of considering and approving the Scheme of Amalgamation between the Applicant Companies as mentioned above.

Any party aggrieved by this Order is entitled to file Miscellaneous Application in the instant Company Application, by seeking appropriate direction(s). Further the Transferee Company is permitted to file necessary Company Petition for sanctioning the Scheme of Amalgamation.

For Miki Steel Works Private Limited
Sd/-
Satya Narayan Choudhary
Director
Place: Bengaluru
Date: 16.03.2024

Shilpi Wire Rope Private Limited

CIN-U30300KA1995PTC018154
Registered office: 22 A&H KIADB Industrial Area, P.O Attibele, Anakel Taluk, Bangalore-562 107
Tel No. 9342543666
Email: blr@mikisteel.co.in

IN THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL BENGALURU BENCH, BENGALURU
C.A. (CAA) NO.32/BB/2023

In the matter of Sec 230 to 232 of the Companies Act, 2013 and applicable provisions of the Companies Act 2013 read with rules made there under
AND
In the matter of Scheme of Amalgamation of Shilpi Wire Rope Private Limited (Transferor Company) and Miki Steel Works Private Limited (Transferee Company) and their respective Shareholders and Creditors

NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS AND SHAREHOLDERS

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Any party aggrieved by this Order is entitled to file Miscellaneous Application in the instant Company Application, by seeking appropriate direction(s). Further the Transferor Company is permitted to file necessary Company Petition for sanctioning the Scheme of Amalgamation.

For Shilpi Wire Rope Private Limited
Sd/-
Surendran Nair
Director
Place: Bengaluru
Date: 16.03.2024

SOUTH INDIAN Bank

CIN: L65191KL1929PLC001017

Regional Office: SIB Arcade, #61, Wheeler Road, Cox Town, Bangalore – 560 005. Tel./ Fax No: +91 80-25479091 / 92
E-mail: ro1010@sib.co.in.
Website: www.southindianbank.com

RO-BNGL/0518/Sale/313/2023-24 **Date:15.03.2024**

E - AUCTION SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6)&9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to The South Indian Bank Limited, Branch Bangalore Sarjapura Road (Secured Creditor), the Physical Possession of which was taken on 31.01.2023 by the Authorised Officer of The South Indian Bank Limited, Regional Office Bangalore (Secured Creditor), will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and " Whatever there is" on **16.04.2024,** for recovery of an amount **Rs.92,64,108.10 (Rupees Ninety Two Lakh Sixty Four Thousand One Hundred Eight and paisa ten only)** as on **15.03.2024** due to The South Indian Bank Limited, Branch Bangalore Sarjapura Road, (Secured Creditor) from the below mentioned Borrower(s) / guarantor(s). **(1) Mr. Basheer M M** (Proprietor M/s. Bangalore Trading Corporation), #186, Muthanallur Cross, Sarjapur Road, Dommasandra, Bangalore - 562125 and **(2) Mrs. Shamla K H W/o Mr. Basheer M M.** Address No 1 & 2 are residing at E-305, Trinity Sunrise Apartment, Somapur, Off Sarjapura Main Road, Bangalore - 562107,

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

All that piece and parcel of residential flat bearing No E-305 measuring 1410 Square feet with VP Khata no 545/E.305(Old khata No 36/E-305 third floor along with terrace area in E Block along with Car parking area and proportionate undivided rights and rights over common areas and amenities in Apartment Complex by name 'Trinity Sunrise" in land in Sy No 37/1B and Sy 37/1C at Somapura Village, Sarjapura Hobli Anekal Taluk, Bangalore and the property is owned by Mr Basheer M M and Shamla K H under Sale deed 547/14-15 dt 14.05.2014in SRO Sarjapur. The land is bounded by North: Property in Sy No 37, East: Property of Chowda Reddy, South : Road, West : Property of Pappa Reddy and others

Reserve Price	**Rs.39,98,000.00** (Rupees Thirty Nine Lakh Ninety Eight Thousand Only)
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	**Rs.4,00,000.00** (Rupees Four Lakh Only) EMD shall be deposited on or before **15.04.2024** till **12.30 PM**
Bid Increment amount	**Rs.10,000.00** (Rupees Ten Thousand Only)
Date and time of E-auction	**16.04.2024** from **2.30 PM to 4.00 PM** (with 5 minute unlimited auto extensions till sale is concluded)
Encumbrances known to the Bank	Encumbrances from **01.04.2014** to **14.04.2023** and it contains sale agreement entry subsequent to our mortgage.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in web portal of South Indian Bank Ltd, (Secured Creditor) website i.e. **www.southindianbank.com.** Details also available at **https://bankauctions.in**

For any further clarification with regards to inspection of property, terms and conditions of the e-auction or submission of bids, kindly contact South Indian Bank Ltd on 9900931599 / 9916097340 / 9740866232 (Pradeep / Prasad / Siddesh)

Date : 15.03.2024 **Sd/- Authorised Officer (Chief Manager)**
Place : Bangalore **The South Indian Bank Ltd.**

SOUTH INDIAN Bank

CIN: L65191KL1929PLC001017

Regional Office: SIB Arcade, #61, Wheeler Road, Cox Town, Bangalore – 560 005. Tel./ Fax No: +91 80-25479091 / 92
E-mail: ro1010@sib.co.in.
Website: www.southindianbank.com

RO-BNGL/0151/Sale/312/2023-24 **Date:15.03.2024**

E - AUCTION SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6)&9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to The South Indian Bank Limited, Branch Bangalore Jayanagar (Secured Creditor), the Physical Possession of which was taken on 24.02.2023 by the Authorised Officer of The South Indian Bank Limited, Regional Office Bangalore (Secured Creditor), will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and " Whatever there is" on **16.04.2024,** for recovery of an amount **Rs.1,86,00,821.84 (Rupees One Crore Eighty Six Lakh Eight Hundred Twenty One and paisa eighty four only)** as on **15.03.2024** due to The South Indian Bank Limited, Branch Bangalore Jayanagar, (Secured Creditor) from the below mentioned Borrower(s) / guarantor(s).**Sri. Santhosh Kumar, S/o Ram Pheran,** Proprietor of M/s. Komal Steels, 162, Commercial Shop No. 04, Ashmit Arcade, 10th main Road, 3rd Phase, Beside SBI Bank, Peenya, Bangalore – 560 058 and **Smt. Geeta Devi Mishra alias Geeta Devi, W/o. Santosh Kumar,** both of them residing at Flat No. G2, Auroraa Pride, No.86, 09th Main, J C Nagar, Mahalakshmipuram Layout, Kurubarahalli, Bangalore – 560 086 (Also at : No. 108, 09th Main, 4th Cross, Near Muneshwara Temple, J C Nagar, Kurubarahalli, Bangalore – 560086).

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

All that piece and parcel of residential apartment being Flat No. G2, (3BHK) in the apartment building 'Auroraa Pride', having a super built up area of 1663 sq.ft. together with 444 sq.ft. of undivided share, along with one covered car parking space in basement floor, constructed on property bearing No. 86 (PID No. 13-39-86), (Old Nos. 168 & 21/2, 90/1 & 30/1) formed in Sy. No. 168 (Re. Sy. No. 21/2) adm East to West: 90 ft and North to South: 80 ft, totally adm. 7200 sq.ft. situated at J.C.Nagar, Laggere Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, owned by Sri Santhosh Kumar vide Sale Deed no. 1983/2016-17 dated 11.07.2016 of SRO Vijayanagar, Bangalore and bounded on the North: Road, East: Private Property, South: Road and West: Private Property

Reserve Price	**Rs.81,00,000.00** (Rupees Eighty One Lakh Only)
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	**Rs.8,10,000.00** (Rupees Eight Lakh Ten Thousand Only) EMD shall be deposited on or before **15.04.2024** till **12.30 PM**
Bid Increment amount	**Rs.10,000.00** (Rupees Ten Thousand Only)
Date and time of E-auction	**16.04.2024** from **11.30 AM** to **1.00 PM** (with 5 minute unlimited auto extensions till sale is concluded)
Encumbrances known to the Bank	Nil/EC from **01.04.2020** to **16.03.2023** and it contains no encumbrance.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in web portal of South Indian Bank Ltd, (Secured Creditor) website i.e. **www.southindianbank.com.** Details also available at **https://bankauctions.in**

For any further clarification with regards to inspection of property, terms and conditions of the e-auction or submission of bids, kindly contact South Indian Bank Ltd on 9900931599 / 9916097340 / 9740866232 (Pradeep / Prasad / Siddesh)

Date : 15.03.2024 **Sd/- Authorised Officer (Chief Manager)**
Place : Bangalore **The South Indian Bank Ltd.**

IN THE COURT OF THE I ADD CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE AT BENGALURU

Crl Misc .No. 142/2024

BETWEEN: SRI. MADHUKAR AND OTHERS
... PETITIONER
:: AND :: THE TAHASILDHAR, REGISTRAR OF BIRTH AND DEATHS, BANGALORE EAST TALUK AND OTHERS
... RESPONDENTS

PUBLIC NOTICE

To, **1. The Tahasildhar,** Registrar of Birth and Deaths, Bangalore East Taluk, K.R Puram, Bangalore Rural District, **Deceased person details: Sri. Thimappa,** Aged about 64 years, Hancharahalli Village, Mundur Post, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk Bangalore-560049.

Whereas the above named petitioner had filed the suit seeking relief of death certificate against the respondent before the 1st Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate, at Bangalore. You are hereby notice to appear before this court on **2/05/2024 at 11 A.M.** in any person or through Advocate/ pleader to answer the questions to the same. Failing which the above petition will be heard and determined as exparte.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court this 14/03/2024,

By Order of the Court, **Sd/- Sherastedar**
1st Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate,
at Bengaluru

Advocate for petitioner
Sd/- Sri M.S Vishwanatha and Shankar,
#1795, 2' Floor 40' "A" Cross, 9' Block Jayanagar,
Bengaluru-560041.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES (BANKING DIVISION)
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - 1, Bengaluru
4th Floor, Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001.
Ph : 080 - 22244324 Fax 080-22244325/326

SALE PROCLAMATION

PROCLAMATION OF SALE UNDER RULES 38, 52(2) OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961 READ WITH THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS AND BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993
RC No. 14688/2018 (OA No. 669/2018)

Between: The Federal Bank Limited and Muhammed Salih & Others

To, (1) Sri Muhammed Salih K S/o Abdulla, (2) Smt Naseema Salih W/o Muhammed Salih, Both are R/at : Site No. 6, Khatha No. 1004/304 & 305, Green Villas, Halayanakanahalli Village, Sarjapur Road, Bengaluru 560 035. **Also at:** No. 71/1, Sarjapur Road, Near Wipro Office, Kaikondrahalli Village, Carmelaram Post, Sarjapur Road, Bengaluru 560 035. **Also at:** Flat No. 313, Itina Soupamika Apartments, Kaikondrahalli Village, Near Wipro Office, Carmelaram Post, Sarjapur Road, Bengaluru 560 035. **(3) M/s Richwood, A partnership Firm Having office at** No. 71/1F, Sarjapur Road, Near Wipro Office, Kaikondrahalli, Carmelaram Post, Bengaluru 560035.

The Under mentioned property will be sold by "Online electronic bidding" through the website **https://drt.auctiontiger.net** on **24.04.2024 between 11.00 am to 11.30 am**, for Recovery of an amount of **Rs. 1,94,10,557/-** (Rupees One Crore Ninty Four Lakhs Ten Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Seven only) including costs and interest thereon as on **02.03.2024** till realization of debt as per Recovery Certificate bearing RC No.14688.

Date and Time of Auction	**24.04.2024** between **11.00 am** and **11.30 am**
Last Date and Time for Bids/ Tender Submission :	**22.04.2024** by **3.00 pm**
Reserve Price	**Rs. 1,79,00,000/-** (Rupees One Crore Seventy Nine Lakhs Only)
Earnest Money Deposit	**Rs. 17,90,000/-** (Rupees Seventeen Lakhs Ninety Thousand Only)
Bid Increment Amount	**Rs. 1,00,000/-** (Rupees One lakh Only)

Schedule of Property: All the piece and parcel of the property being the residential Site No. 06, Khatha No. 1004, forms a part of converted survey No. 30/4 & 30/5, (Conversion Order No. ALN (EVH), SR/304/07-08, Date: 07.10.2008) measuring 3000 sq. ft (East – 60', West – 60', North – 50', South 50'), situated at Haalanayakanahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, along with building constructed thereon, and bounded on the East: Site No. 7, West: Site No. 5, North: 30 feet wide Road, South: Site No. 8 Club House. (Property jointly owned by Sri Muhammed Salih K and Mrs Naseema Salih).

For Term and Conditions of sale: visit website: https://drt.auctiontiger.net, or M/s e-Procurement Technologies Limited (Auction Tiger), Ahmedabad (Contact No.079-40230810 to 827). E-Mail id: Karnataka@auctiontiger.net, or support@auctiontiger.net, Contact persons: Mr.Manohar V-7353931866 / 9722778828.

For further details contact: **Shrikrishna Sharma .K**, Associate Vice President, The Federal Bank Ltd, Loan Collection & Recovery Department, Bangalore-Division, Bangalore, Cont No : 8095828647

Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on this **4th day of March 2024.**

Date: 04.03.2024 **Sd/- Recovery Officer - 2,**
Place: Bengaluru **DRT - 1, Bengaluru**

FEDERAL BANK

YOUR PERFECT BANKING PARTNER

The Federal Bank Ltd., Loan Collection and Recovery Department / Bangalore Division, No. 3, Church Street, 2nd Floor, MSR West Park, Bengaluru-560 001, Karnataka, Phone: +91 8095828647, Email: bgrlcrd@federalbank.co.in Website: www.federalbank.co.in, CIN: L65191KL1931PLC000368

SALE NOTICE

Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s), Co-obligant (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Federal Bank Ltd (Secured Creditor), the Physical Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of The Federal Bank Ltd (Secured Creditor), will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis on **25/04/2024**, for recovery of **₹.5,10,05,685.34 (Rupees Five Crore Ten Lakhs Five Thousand Six Hundred Eighty Five and Paisa Thirty Four Only),** due to the Federal Bank Ltd (Secured Creditor) comprising of **(1)** a sum of **₹.2,80,87,167.19 (Rupees Two Crore Eighty Lakhs Eighty Seven Thousand One Hundred Sixty Seven and Paisa Nineteen Only)** as on **16/03/2024** is due under FHS loan with number 17697300000498, **(2)** a sum of **₹.1,05,15,422.85 (Rupees One Crore Five Lakhs Fifteen Thousand Four Hundred Twenty Two and Paisa Eighty Five Only)** as on **16/03/2024** is due under Property Power (Home Plus Top Up Equity) Loan with number 17697600001014, **(3)** a sum of **₹.76,77,494.30 (Rupees Seventy Six Lakhs Seventy Seven Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Four and Paisa Thirty Only)** as on **16/03/2024** is due under FHS loan with number 17697300000522, **(4)** a sum of **₹.6,05,431/- (Rupees Six Lakhs Five Thousand Four Hundred Thirty One Only)** as on **16/03/2024** is due under Federal Personal Loan Asset Guard with number 17697600001048 and **(5)** a sum of **₹.41,20,170/- (Rupees Forty One Lakhs Twenty Thousand One Hundred Seventy Only)** as on **16/03/2024** is due under Federal Home Plus Top Up Equity Loan with number 17697600001097 with further interest and costs from **(1) N Ramamurari Naidu alias Naka Ramamurari Naidu,** S/o Nakka Nellakantha alias Nakka Neelakantha, C/o Naka Neelakantham, Flat No.02, 1st Floor, Jayamooi Nagar, Vadarapura, Yelahanka, Bangalore, Karnataka – 560064 **(2) Neelima Naka,** W/o N Ramamurari Naidu, C/o Naka Neelakantham, Flat No.02, 1st Floor, Jayamooi Nagar, Vadarapura, Yelahanka, Bangalore, Karnataka – 560064, both are also residing at Villa No.14, Chaitanya La Grove, 1st Phase Row Houses, Brooke Field, Kundalahalli, Banglore North, Banglore Urban, Karnataka–560037 **(3) Nakka Neelakantha,** S/o Naka Murahari, Perupanga, Khilamunda, Perupanga, Rayagada, Odisha-765025.

The Reserve Price below which property will not be sold: **Rs.4,50,00,000/-** and the EMD will be **Rs.45,00,000/-.**

Description of the immovable property

Particulars of property: All that piece and parcel of the property bearing BDA Site No 2C-326, in OMBR Layout, Bangalore, now assigned as BBMP Khatha No 2C-326, at OMBR Layout, Bangalore, Old Ward No.84, New Ward No.27, Old PID No 84-149-2C-326, New PID No 027-W0515-13, Situated at 2nd Cross, opposite CMR College, Chikka Banaswadi Main Road, now falls under the administrative jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Bangalore measuring East to West 12.20 Meters and North to South 18.20 Meters, totally admeasuring 222.04 Square Meters, along with building existing or to be constructed therein and bounded on East : Site No 2C-328, West : Site No 2C-324, North : 2nd Cross Road and South : Site No 1AC-325 and 1AC-327.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in the website of The Federal Bank Ltd i.e. **https://www.federalbank.co.in/web/guest/tender-notices.**

Date : 16.03.2024 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place : Bengaluru **The Federal Bank Ltd.**

MAHATRANSCO

Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.

E-TENDER NOTICE

MSETCL invites online bids (E-Tender) for following

S.N	Tender No. & Description
1	RFx. No. 7000030940; Supply & ETC for the work of replacement of existing 0.4 ACSR conductor along with hardwares by High Performance Conductor (HPC) along with hardwares of a) 220kV Khaparkheda (new)- Kanhan (61.53km), b) 220kV Khaparkheda (old)- Suryalaxmi (56.35km) & c) 220kV Suryalaxmi- Kanhan (19.5km) under EHV PC O&M Zone, Nagpur. EMD Rs. 8447992/- & Tender Fees: Rs. 25000/- (GST extra)

Tenders Available at : https://srmetender.mahatransco.in; Due date for online submission upto: 07.04.2024, 11:00 Hrs; Tender Opening 07.04.2024, 12:00 Hrs if possible

--Sd--
Chief Engineer, EHV PC O&M Zone Nagpur

UNIMONI FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED

RO: N.G. 12 & 13 Ground Floor, North Block, Manipal Centre, Dickenson Road, Bangalore - 560 042. CIN No.U85110KA1995PLC018175

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the Public that Auction of pledged

Amid fresh push for truce talks, first 200-tonne sea aid offloaded in Gaza

Israel agrees to send delegation to Qatar while advancing plans for military ops in Rafah

GAZA STRIP

EFFORTS towards a truce in the Israel-Hamas war appeared to rekindle on Saturday after a new proposal from the Palestinian militant group which also called for more aid into Gaza, where the first food shipment by sea reached shore.

Israel said it would send a delegation to Qatar for another round of talks on a possible deal. It also advanced plans for a military operation in Rafah, where most of Gaza's population has sought refuge from more than five months of war and deprivation.

The US charity World Central Kitchen (WCK) on Saturday said its team had finished unloading almost 200 tonnes of food, the first shipment to arrive on a new maritime aid corridor from Cyprus. "All cargo was offloaded and is being readied for distribution in Gaza," WCK said in a statement.

WCK's partner, the Open Arms vessel which towed the aid on a barge, had sailed from Larnaca port on Tuesday.

A second ship loaded with aid for Gaza could also depart as early as Saturday, Cyprus said, as the first vessel returned from the war-ravaged territory. The Jennifer was set "to depart for Gaza today or tomorrow," foreign ministry spokesperson Theodoros Gotsis told state radio.

The United Nations has reported particular difficulty in accessing the besieged Gaza Strip's north for deliveries of food and other aid.

Residents say they have resorted to eating wild plants and animal fodder, and some have stormed the few aid trucks that have made it through. "Doctors are reporting that they no longer see normal-sized babies," Dominic Allen, of the United Nations Population Fund, said after visiting Gaza's north.

With the situation increasingly dire, donors have turned to the air and sea.

Multiple nations have begun daily aid airdrops over Gaza. Germany's air force said on Saturday it successfully made its first delivery over north Gaza. The new maritime corridor is to be complemented by a temporary pier which United States troops are on their way to build. But air and sea missions are no alternative to land deliveries, UN officials and aid groups say. Humanitarians have cited Israeli restrictions as among the obstacles they face. The health ministry in Hamas-ruled Gaza said at least 63 people had been killed over the previous 24 hours.

Earlier Saturday, ministry spokesman Ashraf al-Qudra reported 36 deaths from a strike on a house sheltering displaced people in Nuseirat, central Gaza. Images showed a building blown apart. Witnesses reported air strikes and fighting in the southern Gaza Strip's main city Khan Yunis as well as areas of the north. *AFP*

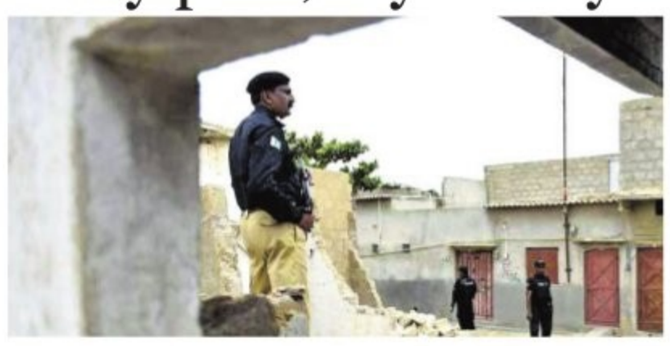
A photo provided by the Israeli Army shows humanitarian aid from the World Central Kitchen (WCK) arriving at the Gaza Strip's maritime space | AP

'Bloody' Ramadan Friday as Gaza strike kills 36 of a family

GAZA STRIP: Displaced by Israeli bombardment, the Tabatibi family gathered in central Gaza to eat together during the first Friday night of Ramadan, a scene that soon turned into a bloodbath. An air strike hit the building where they were staying as women prepared the pre-fasting meal, killing 36 members of the family, survivors told AFP on Saturday. The health ministry in Hamas-run Gaza, which provided the same death toll, blamed Israel for the strike in Nuseirat, while the Israeli military said it was looking into the incident. *AFP*

Seven soldiers killed in attack on Pakistan security post, says army

ISLAMABAD



SEVEN PAKISTANI soldiers and six assailants were killed on Saturday in an attack on a security post close to the border with Afghanistan, according to the military.

Members of an armed group attacked the security post near Mir Ali in the early hours of Saturday, the army's communication service (ISPR) said in a statement.

"The terrorists rammed an explosive-laden vehicle into the post, followed by multiple suicide bombing attacks, which led to (the) collapse of (a) portion of a building," the statement said, adding that five soldiers were killed.

Clashes followed, and during an exchange of fire a 39-year-old lieutenant colonel and a 23-year-old captain died, the ISPR added.

All the six terrorists who attacked the check post in Mir Ali area were shot dead.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur condemned the attack and expressed grief over the death of the soldiers. According to an annual security report issued by the Centre for Research and Security Studies, Pakistan witnessed 1,524 violence-related fatalities and 1,463 injuries from 789 terror attacks and counter-terror operations in 2023 ' marking a record six-year high.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan provinces were the primary centres of violence, accounting for over 90 per cent of all fatalities and 84 per cent of attacks, including incidents of terrorism and security forces operations.

Pakistan was once plagued by near-daily bombings, prompting a major military clearance operation in the former tribal areas starting in 2014. North Waziristan, where Saturday's attack took place, has historically been a hive of militancy and was the target of a long-running Pakistani military offensive and US drone strikes during the post-9/11 occupation of Afghanistan.

Analysts say militants in the former tribal areas have become emboldened since the Taliban's return to power in neighbouring Afghanistan in 2021.

Pakistan's home-grown Taliban group, Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), has waged a growing campaign against security officials.

Islamabad has accused Kabul's Taliban government of harbouring TTP fighters, allowing them to strike on Pakistani soil with impunity. Kabul has consistently denied the allegations.

The military's media wing said a sanitisation operation was being conducted to eliminate any other terrorists present in the area. *Agencies*

ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ,
ನಂ. 101, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆಡಳಿತ ಭವನ, ನವನಗರ, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ : 08354-236419. ಇ-ಮೇಲ್ : dobcmbagalkote@gmail.com
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಡಿ.ಬಿ.ಸಿ.ಬಾ./ವ.ನಿ.ಶಾ./ಸಿಆರ್/2023-24 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 16-03-2024

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮಟ್ಟದ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖಾ ವತಿಯಿಂದ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿರುವ **ಮೆಟ್ರಿಕ್ ಪೂರ್ವ ಮತ್ತು ಮೆಟ್ರಿಕ್ ನಂತರದ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ನಿಲಯಗಳಿಗೆ ಆಹಾರ ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ಸಾಮಗ್ರಿಗಳ ಸರಬರಾಜು** ಕುರಿತು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ 2024-25 ಹಾಗೂ 2025-26 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಹ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದ ದ್ವಿ-ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

1) ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಹೆಸರು : ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಕೋಟಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) : 34.68 ಕೋಟಿಗಳು, ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) : 34.68 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು.

ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಹಾಗೂ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜುಗಳನ್ನು **ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ : kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **16-05-2024** ರ ಸಂಜೆ **5.00** ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ನಿಗಧಿಪಡಿಸಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/- (ಶ್ರೀ. ಹರ್ಷ ಎಸ್.)
ಉಪ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು,
ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ,
ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ.

ದಿಪಪಿಆರ್/ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ/464/ಮಾಧ್ಯಮ/2023-24

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರಕಾರ
ತಾಲೂಕಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ ಕುಮಟಾ
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 08386-222050 Email:tpkumta@gmail.com
ಸಂ:ತಾ.ಪಂ.ಕು/ಗ್ರಾ.ಕು.ನೀ/ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್/2023-24 ದಿನಾಂಕ:14-03-2024

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ವಿಷಯ:- ಟ್ಯಾಂಕರ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮಾಡಲು ಇ- ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸುವ ಕುರಿತು.
ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ:- 1) ತಹಶೀಲ್ದಾರರು ಕುಮಟಾ ರವರ ಪತ್ರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಸಿಎಎಲ್/ವಿಪ/2023-24 ದಿ:13-03-2024

ಈ ಮೇಲಿನ ವಿಷಯಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ 2024ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಬೇಸಿಗೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕುಮಟಾ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ಗ್ರಾಮ/ಮಜರೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಟ್ಯಾಂಕರ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರಿನ ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮಾಡುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆ ನಡೆಸಲು ನಿರ್ಣಯಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಅದರಂತೆ ಸದ್ರಿ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಒಂದು ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ ಫಾರ್ಮಗಳನ್ನು ಹಾಗೂ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳನ್ನೊಳಗೊಂಡ ಟೆಂಡರ ಪುಸ್ತಕವನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16.03.2024 ರಿಂದ 26-03.2024 ಅಪರಾಹ್ನ 1.00 ಗಂಟೆಯೊಳಗೆ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in/www.eproc.karnataka.gov, in ರಲ್ಲಿ ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ನಿಗಧಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ಶುಲ್ಕದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಟೆಂಡರ ಫಾರ್ಮಗಳನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 27.03.2024 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಬಹುದು. ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸಿದ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ:28.03.2024 ಪೂರ್ವಾಹ್ನ 10-00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ದಿ:-28-03-2024 ಸಂಜೆ 4-00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕಚೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲಸದ ದಿನಗಳಂದು ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು
ತಾಲೂಕ ಪಂಚಾಯತ ಕುಮಟಾ

MAJOR FIRE DESTROYS FAMED AL-AHRAM FILM STUDIO IN CAIRO

CAIRO

A MAJOR fire in Cairo destroyed one of the Arab world's most prestigious and oldest film production houses, founded 80 years ago.

Flames overtook the Al-Ahram Studio in Cairo's Giza district, burning everything inside and spreading to three surrounding buildings which were evacuated before the blaze reached them.

Residents of the neighbouring buildings were still sleeping on the ground in nearby streets at dawn on Saturday, the AFP journalist reported.

Deadly fires are a common hazard in Egypt, where fire codes are rarely enforced and emergency services are often slow to arrive. In this case, security sources said there were no deaths, though some people suffering smoke inhalation were treated at the scene. Local media reported that the fire broke out 24 hours after filming finished for a Ramadan television series. The Muslim holy fasting month of Ramadan, which began last Monday, accounts for peak viewership in Egypt and the rest of the Arab world.

The cause of the fire is still unknown, and firefighters needed more than six hours to extinguish it, according to the security sources.

Yusif Mohammed, a neighbour who witnessed the fire, told AFP that flames "reached the surrounding buildings before fire trucks arrived".

"No one knows what really happened" to cause it, he said.

Al-Ahram Studio was founded in 1944 and built on 27,000 square metres containing three production stages, a screening room and an editing suite. *AFP*

A firefighter cools the area still smouldering after a fire at the Al-Ahram Studio and surrounding buildings in Cairo's Giza on Saturday | AFP

Haitians voice scepticism at plan for interim govt

PORT-AU-PRINCE

HAITIANS were on edge on Friday awaiting the naming of a transitional governing body meant to restore stability to the country, wracked by gang violence and largely isolated from the outside world.

Attacks in the capital Port-au-Prince continued overnight, targeting the airport and a top police official's home, while residents mounted roadblocks in two spots both to impede the criminal gangs and signal their own frustration.

Some are hoping a transitional council can fill the void left by PM Ariel Henry, who is leaving amid pressure from an offensive by gangs that control 80% of the capital. Yet many have decried the pending establishment of a transitional council, a move supported by Caribbean regional body CARICOM, the UN and the US. "I'm in the street now and I'm very angry," resident Francois Nolin told AFP, claiming that "the Americans are imposing certain conditions on us to run the country." "White people have no right to meddle in our affairs. Instead of making things better, they'll make them worse," said Jesula, a Haitian woman who declined to give her last name. The country has a long, brutal history of foreign interventions, from a 20-year American occupation in the early 1900s to a deadly cholera outbreak linked to a UN peacekeeping mission in the 2010s. *AFP*

Govt of Karnataka - Prisons & Correctional Services
Office of the Chief Superintendent, Office of the Central Prisons & Correctional Services, Shivamogga
Tel: 08182 -295502 Email : cpsmg.prison@ka.gov.in
No:CPS/Tender /1163 /2023-24 Date 15-03-2024

NOTIFICATION - SHIVAMOGGA ZONE

Following No of E-tender are invited for the supply of food items and other materials to the Jails coming under the Shivamogga Zone

Tender Nos.	Tender Invited date	Last Date for Tender	Tender Details	Approx. amount of Tender in Rs.	E.M.D. Amount in Rs.
PCSD/2023-24/IND0103	15.03.2024	15.04.2024	Part – 1 food items	2,50,31,222-00	3,75,468-00
PCSD/2023-24/IND0104	15.03.2024	15.04.2024	Part – 2 food items	3,27,75,506-00	4,91,633-00
PCSD/2023-24/IND0105	15.03.2024	15.04.2024	Part – 3 Fruits & Leaf Vegetables	1,23,32,575-00	2,00,000-00
PCSD/2023-24/IND0106	15.03.2024	15.04.2024	Part – 4 Meat & eggs	1,16,12,427-50	2,00,000-00
PCSD/2023-24/IND0107	15.03.2024	15.04.2024	Part – 5 other items / materials	76,88,000-00	1,53,760-00
PCSD/2023-24/IND0011	15.03.2024	15.04.2024	Face Shaving and Hair Cutting of prison inmates	38,64,000-00	77,280.00

To participate in the tender process, and also further information can be obtained from https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in and submitted. For further details about tender process can be obtained from the office of : Chief Superintendent, Office of the Central Prisons & Correctional Services, Sogane (village) Nidhige Post, Shivamogga 577222. Tel: 08182 -295502 /9480806465

Sd/- Chief Superintendent, Central Prison, Shivamogga.
DIPR/smg/No.79/03/23-24/KSMCA/1536

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank | Branch Office- ICICI Bank Ltd. 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanhalli Hosur Main Road Bangalore- 560068

Whereas
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Mohammed Basha S & Banu Mohammed Basha/ D No. 25 30 24 52 Plot No 22 23 New S F No. 427 1a1 Plot No. 22 Subhaniya Street Pernambut Vellore District Pernambut New Sf No. 427 1A1 Vellore- 635810/ LBVLR00006023668 & LBVLR00006045935	Item-I Annexure A Particulars of Secured Property Schedule "A" Of Property All That Piece and Parcel of Plot No.22 Measuring To an Extent of 960.75 Sq.ft. (89.25 Sq.mts.) Property Assessment No.2453, Comprised Survey No.427, as Per Sub-Division Survey No.427/1A1. Situated at Pernambut Village, Pernambut Taluk, Vellore District Being Bounded On The North By Plot No.23 South By House In Plot No.21 Belongs To Shri P. Subiya Thamkeen East By 20 Feet Wide North- South Road West By Property of Other Person Admeasuring North To South On The Eastern Side: 18.00 Feet North To South On The Western Side: 18.00 Feet East To West On The Northern Side: 52.75 Feet East To West On The Southern Side: 54.00 Feet and Lying Within The Registration District of Vellore and Sub-Registration District of Pernambut, Vellore District. Item-ii Schedule "A" of Property All That Piece and Parcel of Plot No.23 Measuring To an Extent of 975.25 Sq.ft. (90.51 Sq.mts.) Property Assessment No.2454, Comprised Survey No.427, as Per Sub-Division Survey No.427/1A1. Situated at Pernambut Village, Pernambut Taluk, Vellore District Being Bounded On The North By Plot No.24 South By House In Plot No.22 East By 20 Feet Wide North- South Road West By Property of Another Person Admeasuring North To South On The Eastern Side: 18.00 Feet North To South On The Western Side: 18.00 Feet East To West On The Northern Side: 54.00 Feet East To West On The Southern Side: 54.25 Feet and Lying Within The Registration District of Vellore and Sub-Registration District of Pernambut, Vellore District. The Above Two Properties Measuring To an Extent of 1935 Sq.ft. (179.76 Sq.mts.) With A 8 Years Old House Along With All Accessories, Windows, Doors, Etc. Electricity Connection No.473-005-2215, 473-005-2216 With Deposit. The Above Properties Lying Within The Limits of Permambut Municipality./ Date of Symbolic Possession 13th March 2024.	02/11/2023 Rs. 50,58,975/-	Bangalore

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date: March 16, 2024
Place: Bangalore
Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

MAHATRANSCO

SRM E-Tender Notice

Digitally signed online bids are invited through SRM E-tender process of MSETCL in two bid system from bidders who are registered Electrical Contractors/Vendors of MSETCL **RFx.7000030974** SRM **E-tender No.** CE / EHV PC O&M ZONE/ NSK/T-55/2023-24, **Particulars of Work:** Second circuit stringing along with end bays in r/o (i) 132 kV Bambhori-Erondol Line (26.77 ckm) (ii) 132 kV Alephata-Ghargaon (30.82 ckm) (iii)132 kV Dondaicha-Shirpur line (53ckm) and (iv) 220 kV Gangapur-Valve line (12 ckm) under EHV PC O&M Zone Nashik **Estimated cost of work:**Rs. 3133.68 Lakhs, **E.M.D. (Aprox.1% of Est. cost) :** Rs. 31,33,680/-, **Tender Fees:** Rs 29500/-, **Sale period:** 16.03.2024 to 06.04.2024, **Last Date of Submission:** 06.04.2024 upto13:00 Hrs, **Date of opening (Tech. bid):** 06.04.2024 at 15:00Hrs(If possible), **Contact person:**Executive Engineer, EHV PC O&M Zone, Nashik.Phone No. 0235-2403010,02 Fax No. 0253-2403000, For further details please visit to **https://srmetender.mahatransco.in**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer EHV PC O&M Zone, MSETCL, Nashik.

AFFIDAVIT

I, **BALAMURUGAN .V.M**, S/o Manrajah Vellaiyappa Pillai, age 45 years, R/at No. 302, Block-A, Arcade Elegance, Divya Unnathi Layout, Horamavu, Babusapalya, Bangalore-560 043 do hereby declare that both the names i.e. **BALAMURUGAN .V.M** and **BALAMURUGAN MANRAJAH** are one and the same and refers to me only, **"V.M."** refers my father name **Manrajah Vellaiyappa Pillai**, vide affidavit dated 14.03.2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **A.R. MUNEER AHMED** at Bangalore.

QuoteExpress
NEVER COMPLAIN AND NEVER EXPLAIN
BENJAMIN DISRAELI

MAHATRANSCO

SRM E-Tender Notice

Digitally signed online bids are invited through SRM E-tender process of MSETCL in two bid system from bidders who are registered Electrical Vendors/Contractors of MSETCL for following SRM E-tender;

RFx No.	E-Tender No.	Particulars	Estimated Cost	EMD	Tender Fees
7000030992	T- 61/2023-24	Work of Replacement of existing conductor with High Ampacity Conductor of 132kV Pimperkhed-Chalisgaon Line for RE power evacuation under Nashik Zone.	1718.77 Lakhs	Rs. 17,18,772.96/-	Rs. 25,000/- + GST

Sale period: 16.03.2024 to 30.03.2024, **Last Date of Submission:** 30.03.2024 up to 13:00 Hrs, **Date of opening (Tech. bid):** 01.04.2024 at 12:00 Hrs (if possible). **Contact person:** Executive Engineer, EHV PC O&M Zone, Nashik. Phone No. 0253-2403010/02/07 Fax No. 0253-2403000, For further details please visit to **https://srmetender.mahatransco.in**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer, EHV PC O&M, Zone, MSETCL, Nashik.

Government of Karnataka
SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Regarding recruitment of vacant Group 'C' and 'D' Group posts in KRIES Morarji Desai/Kittur Rani Chennamma/Atal Bihari Vajpayee/Dr. BR Ambedkar/Indira Gandhi Residential Schools under Social Welfare Department through Outsourcing Agency.

Publication of e-procurement Tender

No. DDSWDS/S-5/OSE/CR/2023-24 Date : 16.03.2024

01	Tender Pbulished No. and Date	No. DDSWD/S-5/OSE/CR/2023-24 Dated : 15.03.2024
02	Tender Estimate Cost No.	Rs. 360.00 Lakhs (Three Core sixty lakhs only)
03	Rate of Tender Form	As per e-portal
04	Date of availability of e-portal for submission of tender form	16-03-2024
05	Last date and time for submission of tender form	14.05.2024 5-00 pm
06	Pri-Bid Meeting Date and Time	15.04.2024 11.00 am
07	Opening of Technical Bid Date	16.05.2024
08	Opening of Financial Bid Date	18.05.2024
09	E.M.D.	Rs. 9.00 Lakh
10	For further information concerned officer and address Telephone number	https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home and Office the Joiny Director, Social Welfare Department DC Office Building 'B' block Room No.25 Devagiri-Haveri. Tel No.: 08375-249292.

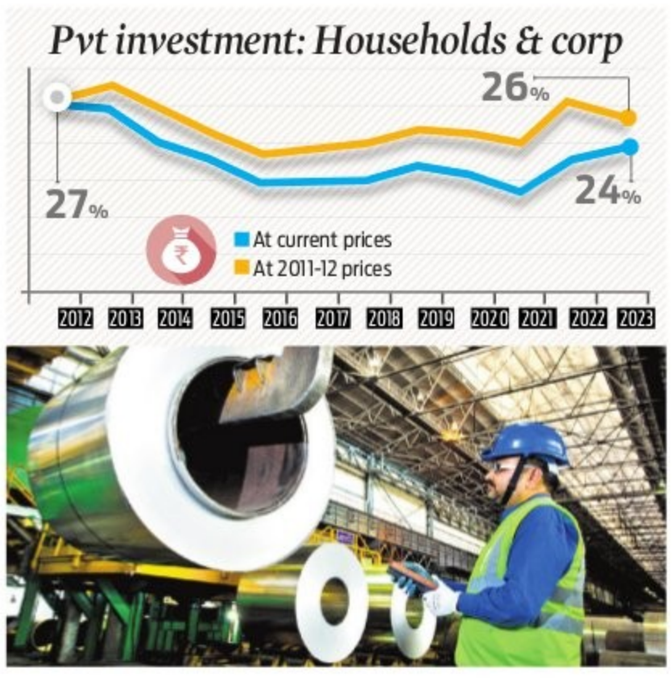
Sd/- Deputy Director
Social Welfare Department, Haveri
DIPR/Haveri/ 550/DESHPANDEPUBLICITY/2023-24.

1 CR households have registered under the rooftop solar scheme 'PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana', Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday

India's pvt investment puzzle

Picked up from lows of 2016 and 2017 but yet to reach levels achieved during 2011-12

MONIKA YADAV @ New Delhi



DESPITE the Government's thrust on capex, the private sector is not very enthusiastic about capacity expansion in the country. Many factors, particularly global uncertainties, are the main reasons behind the lackluster growth in private investment.

Private investment has picked up from the lows of 2016 and 2017 but it is yet to reach the levels achieved during 2011-12. According to the government data, private investment at both the current and constant prices was 27% of the gross domestic product (GDP). However, in 2016 and 2017, it plunged to 21.3% of GDP at current prices. In constant prices, it stood at 22.7% of GDP in 2016 and 23.2% of GDP in 2017. Then, in 2023 it gradually picked up to 23.8% of GDP at current rates and 25.7% of GDP at constant rates.

"We observe that the investment as a % of GDP at constant prices is much higher than investment at current prices and the difference has increased substantially during the recent years. Inconsistency is being driven by the variation in GDP deflator. Given that the households and corporations base their decisions on nominal numbers, I prefer to use nominal numbers for assessing the progress we are making in building capacity for growth," said Anil K Sood, professor and co-founder, Institute for Advanced Studies in Complex Choices (IASCC).

Private investments include both investments by corporations as well as households.

According to Sood, private corporation investment has recovered better than the households, but they are investing in dwellings and buildings and not machinery equipment or IP assets. Equipment and IP investment is considered to be relatively riskier. Lower investment in equipment and IP is also explained by the fact that office and commercial construction are driving growth in the real-estate sector. Arvind Virmani, member, EAC-PM, differs from those who think private investment is not picking up. According to him, private investment seems to be slowing down majorly because of moderate rise in the prices of plant and machinery.

"Price of capital/investment goods is rising slower than that of the GDP. When the ratio of the current prices of investment to GDP like machinery and equipment and structure is declining much less than with that at constant prices, then it means that the price of the capital goods is going down in real terms divided by the general price level," Virmani said.

Signs of pick-up

According to Charan Singh, who is an economist and founder of EGROW Foundation, the possible reasons for the slower private investment growth could be increased uncertainty, global geopolitical issues, and high interest rates. However, he also points out a positive trend in credit off-take in the Mudra and MSME segments due to the digital revolution and the success of initiatives like the Jandhan Adhaar (JAM trinity).

"The share of NBFCs in the overall credit is also expanding. The recent data revealing high monthly private consumption expenditure and robust growth rate cements the fact that the quality and size of investment needs to be examined in more granularity," Singh said.

Some sectors like steel and hotel and tourism are showing sign of investment expansion. JSW steel is planning to expand its capacity to 50 million tonne by FY31 from the present capacity of 25.70 million tonne, while SAIL is all set to expand its capacity to 35.6 million tonne by FY31 from the present capacity of 20.632 MT.

According to ICRA Ltd, there has been a notable increase in demand, leading to a rise in supply announcements and the revival of postponed projects in the hotel and tourism industry over the past 18-24 months.

The premium hotel supply outlook for the upcoming years has seen a significant increase due to new agreements and the entry of global brands into the Indian market. However, the growth in supply is projected to be slower than the growth in demand.

"Sizeable supply announcements are seen in tier-II leisure, business, and religious destinations. There is also an increase in per-room construction cost by 20-25%, with cost inflation, compared to pre-Covid levels," said ICRA.

Arvind Virmani, member, Economic Advisory Council of Prime Minister (EAC-PM), says that the private investment has now begun to pick up and it will only go upwards in the next five years. "The government has raised capital expenditure by almost 30% a year, which has given a boost to the economy. The multiplier of capex is 2.5 times. This is why we have grown over 7%," says Virnami, adding that capital expenditure crowds in investment.

> **We observe that the investment as a % of GDP at constant prices is much higher than investment at current prices and the difference has increased substantially during the recent years**
>
> Anil K Sood, prof & co-founder, Institute for Advanced Studies in Complex Choices

High cost of capital

Both Virmani and Singh concurred that interest rates are high due to global uncertainties. Though the manufacturing sector is open, the industry is interlinked with the outside world also, so they have to worry about what everybody else is doing. "My view is that both these factors will become less severe over the next year starting April. If my analysis is right, global interest rates will decline over the next year, and also the global uncertainty will go down, therefore, the corporate investment will increase," Virmani added.

As per Lekha Chakraborty, Professor with National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, high fiscal deficit in India is tied to high capex to attract private corporate investment. India has introduced Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code to restructure the ailing industries. Moreover, bank recapitalisation has been done to provide capital adequacy to the private corporate sector when there was a twin balance sheet crisis - mounting the corporate debt and the bank's balance sheet. Despite all these reforms, the private sector is shy because of macroeconomic uncertainties and risks. She said that the Centre is on track focusing on capex to attract private corporate investment, and the results will not be instantaneous, but with a lagged effect.

Falling FDI

Foreign direct investment (FDI) in India has been falling since 2021-22. It fell from $59 billion in 2021-22 to $46 billion in 2022-23. In the first 9 months of the current financial year, FDI has seen a 13% fall to $32 billion. With regard to foreign investment, Virmani said the share of emerging economies in total investment has declined and that of the developed world is rising. As far as India's share in emerging market is concerned, it hasn't gone down, rather it has increased.

"FDI has done reasonably well in India in the last ten years. The centre is making efforts in terms of product linked incentive scheme (PLI) and free trade agreements (FTAs). These are two arms of its strategy to make sure we get FDI, which is related to supply chain, because again the multiplier effect is better as we will get more skilling, employment," stated Virmani.

NEWSCOPE

AFTER EB FIASCO, NEW PARTY FUNDING NORMS NEEDED

GURBIR SINGH

KUDOS to the public-spirited 'accountability' NGOs like Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) and Common Cause who stayed the course to stop the Electoral Bonds scheme; and to the Supreme Court for seeing through the delaying tactics. Had the donours and beneficiaries list been released after the elections, they would have been irrelevant.

For all his astuteness as a fire fighter and a legal eagle, late finance minister Arun Jaitley will be remembered as the author of this dubious scheme. It was introduced in 2018 with the grandiose aim "to ensure clean tax-paid money is coming into the system...." But, as the apex court has held, it was but a smokescreen to legalise opacity.

Of the ₹16,518 crore worth of electoral bonds (EBs) purchased since 2018, the first list published by the EC of 12,155 crore shows some interesting trails. There is Megha Engineering, the secondhighest buyer of ₹966 crore worth of EBs. It has got plum contracts like the ₹14,400 crore Thane-Borivali Twin Tunnel Project and earlier the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project in Telangana. Quid pro quo?

Or the little know Future Gaming? At Rs 1,368 crore, it is the biggest purchaser of EBs. In April 2022, after Enforcement Directorate (ED) raids, it donated ₹100 crore in EBs. Arm-twisting?

Western democracies

There is nothing wrong with political parties receiving donations as long as it is public who the donors are. After all political parties are large institutions with complex networks and incur big expenses. In the U.S., it works the other way – the strength of a candidate is gauged by the campaign funds the person can muster.

According to US' Federal Election Commission (FEC), till last month all the 2024 presidential candidates together had raised $381 million.President Joe Biden was in the lead with $90 million, followed by his Republican challenger Donald Trump at $80 million. Nikki Haley, who was the last to pull out for the Republican nomination race, didn't do too badly raising $36 mn.

The US has good transparency rules but its not the epitome of democracy where 'dark' funding is concerned. Private fund-raising is built into the system. Candidates are allowed to raise upto $3,300 from individuals, while party committees can raise up to $41,300, as long as the name and occupation of the donor is conveyed to the FEC.

Though corporations and lobby groups are restricted from directly funding candidates, a series of US Supreme Court judgments has now made it possible for them to spend 'soft money' almost limitlessly through political action committees or 'Super PACs' through advertising campaigns, etc.

SOURAV ROY

For instance the rightwing pro-gun group, the National Rifle Association (NRA), spent $50 million backing Trump and his other Senate candidates in 2016. The NRA is such a powerful voice in US politics that it is virtually impossible to bring in any serious gun control laws.

It is estimated $14 billion was spent in the US presidential campaign in 2020, the most expensive election so far. Commenting on money power undermining democracy, the Brennen Centre of Justice said "big money dominates U.S. political campaigns to a degree not seen in decades" and is "drowning out the voices of ordinary Americans."

Germany on the other hand has a sophisticated system that allocates taxpayer funds to political parties that have polled at least 0.5% of the vote to the European Parliament or the Bundestag. Allocation of funds are based on the strength of the party: 0.83 euro for each valid vote ; and 0.45 euro for each euro received from other sources like membership dues, or legal donations.Parties must account for their assets and for the sources and use of their funds.

Corporate, public money

Back in India, with the EBs gone, the Election Commission will need a new legal regime to track political funding.

The breach of the 'right to information' was at the core of the apex court holding the electoral bond scheme 'unconstitutional'.There is no harm in corporations, or lobby groups contributing to political parties. But let it be known where the money is coming from. For voters, it will be a fair indication who the party will work for.

A mix of public funding, like the German system, along with corporate contributions, could be a good way forward. Direct corporate funding of parties may create dangerous quid pro quo anomalies; but a regulated single corpus from which political parties are allotted monies based on their strength, can be a workable formula. Individual Indian corporates have successfully experimented with this.

In our twisted democracy there is a yawning gap between the rule book and reality. Individual Lok Sabha candidates can now spend up to ₹95 lakh depending on the size of the state.

The expenditure in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls is estimated at ₹60,000 crore. That's an average of about ₹500 crore for each of the 543 constituencies that went to the poll. For the coming elections, total expenses will exceed ₹ 1 lakh crore.Then there are post and pre-poll hidden costs – like engineering defections after the elections.

Myriad costs will be below the radar and may never enter the public realm. But in respect of the small world of institutional funding, let there be a transparent code.

Duty cut not to have major impact on local EV makers

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

IMPORT duty concessions on completely built unit (CBU) electric cars will not have a major impact on local players even as the government via its updated EV policy is giving a massive tax benefit of about ₹16 lakh per unit on 40,000 electric vehicles (EV) over the next 5 years, according to a top carmaker, industry experts as well as the government

"It will help accelerate the EV ecosystem in India. Our Born Electric SUVs are on track to be launched in Jan 2025 with cutting-edge technology. Our products will speak for themselves," said a Mahindra spokesperson. In the past, Mahindra and Tata Motors had advised the government not to lower import duty on EVs and protect domestic firms.

Siddhartha Bagri, CEO, Pravaig, a new-age e-carmaker, said the new EV policy undermines and underscores the contributions in capital, time and energy that millions of people, thousands of innovators and hundreds of companies have made in India over the last many decades. "To attract less than 0.1% of that contribution in terms of an investment into India, we believe a change in a significant policy like this will adversely impact sentiment of the Indian automotive ecosystem," added Bagri.

Lowering import duty from 70% to 15% is seen as India's step to attract global players, especially Tesla, to start manufacturing EVs in India. Billionaire Elon Musk's Tesla in the past was lobbying to seek import duty cuts as they wanted to test the Indian market first before setting up a local factory.

A senior executive at a leading passenger vehicle company said the policy has been updated by keeping a particular carmaker (Tesla) in mind as its Model 3 is priced at around $35,000. "Tesla is a strong brand and may become the first choice of affluent EV enthusiast. However, India is a cost-conscious market at the share of cars priced above $35,000 is very small at 2.5%... In the long run, maybe, domestic players can face increased competition from global brands, especially in the premium segment," the executive said requesting anonymity.

The government will now charge only 15% import duty on cars which have minimum cost, insurance and freight (CIF) value of $35,000, provided they meet investment criteria of $500 million and increase localisation to 50%. Currently, CBU cars priced at over $40,000 attract a 100% duty while those below $40,000 are subject to a 70% tax

Nawneet Vibhaw, Partner, Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co, said the updated EV policy should not be seen as a deterrent for our incumbent domestic EV manufacturers at all as it will promote healthy competition among EV manufacturers in India and ensure better technology, cost-efficiency and overall quality. "Indian companies are already manufacturing vehicles which are great in quality and cost much lesser. More importantly there is a cap on the number of such vehicles which are allowed to be imported apart from several other conditions like the minimum investment requirement etc," added Vibhaw.

Rajesh Kumar Singh, Secretary of DPIIT, said, "Our intention is not to cannibalise their (domestic players) market but to expand EV market by bringing in new players, give consumers the latest technology, kickstart transition to EVs by bringing in you know proven technology."

Business & Beyond

JSP Angul Observes 53rd National Safety Week: Reiterates commitment to Zero Harm Policy

The Angul unit of Jindal Steel and Power (JSP) observed the 53rd National Safety Week, reaffirming its dedication to Zero Harm. The weeklong celebration, which commenced on March 4th and concluded on March 12th, witnessed the participation of a large number of employees and stakeholders. Mr. Manoj Mishra, Assistant Director of Factories & Boilers (ADFB), graced the final day of the ceremony as the Chief Guest. He highlighted improvement opportunities to achieve Zero Harm through proactive safety intervention and effective implementation of risk management processes. During the event, Mr. Pankaj Malhan, Angul's location head and Executive Director in charge, administered the Safety Oath to every participant. JSP's Safety team presented the Safety Report card for the year, along with initiatives and the way forward towards a Zero Harm vision.

Historic Achievement: Simultaneous Launch of Two ASWSWC Warships for Indian Navy

Kolkata: Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd reached yet another significant milestone by simultaneously launching two ASWSWC warships for the Indian Navy on Wednesday, March 13, 2024. It was certainly a treat for the eyes of those present as these two magnificent platforms touched water for the first time below their keels. The ships were launched by Mrs Neeta Chaudhari, President Air Force Families Welfare Association (IFFWA) and wife of Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari, Chief of the Air Staff, Indian Air Force. Air Chief Marshal Chaudhari was chief guest at the occasion. These ships are reincarnations of Abhay-class warships of the Indian Navy.

53rd Safety Week concludes at aradip Port Authority: Focuses on ESG Excellence

"Focus on Safety Leadership for Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Excellence" as the theme, 53rd National Safety Week being observed by Paradip Port Authority today came to an end. Shri P.L. Haranadh, Chairman, PPA lowered the National Safety week Flag, this afternoon at an event held at Gate No. 4, in presence of Dy.Chairman, Shri Nilabhra Dasgupta, Shri Soma Sekhar Bajaramath, Addl. Asst. Director, Inspectorate Dock Safety along with other HODs and PPA officials and various stakeholders. Chief Guest on the occasion, Shri P.L. Haranadh, Chairman, PPA said that bad practices invite accidents and for this working culture must be improved.

Krosaki Refractories secured Indian Chamber of Commerce Social Impact Award 2024

TRL Krosaki Refractories, a stalwart in corporate social responsibility (CSR), secured Indian Chamber of Commerce Social Impact Award 2024 in large enterprise category. Recognizing the commendable efforts, West Bengal Governor's Scroll of Honour was also bestowed upon them for their judicious use of resources in social upliftment. Dr. Santosh Kumar Mishra, Dy General Manager (PR & CSR), accepted the accolades from Governor of West Bengal, Dr. C. V. Ananda Bose.

Chennai Port raises the bar in cargo handling

Chennai Port recorded a landmark performance by handling a throughput of 48.99 MMT on 15.03.2024 over and above the cargo tonnage of 48.95 MMT handled during the financial year 2022-23. Sri Anil Paliwal, Chairperson, Chennai Port Authority, appreciated the efforts taken by the vessel operators, stakeholders and and port officials for the above achievement.

SRM E-Tender Notice

MAHATRANSCO

Digitally signed online bids are invited through SRM E-tender process of MSETCL in two bid system from bidders who are registered Electrical Vendors/Contractors of MSETCL for following SRM E-tender;

RFx No.	E-Tender No.	Particulars	Estimated Cost	EMD	Tender Fees
7000030978	T- 59/2023-24	Work of Replacement of existing conductor with High Ampacity Conductor of 220kV Shivajinagar-Sakri–Dhule Line for RE power evacuation under Nashik Zone.	4441.06 Lakhs	Rs. 44,41,055.31/-	Rs. 25,000/- + GST

Sale period: 16.03.2024 to 06.04.2024, **Last Date of Submission:** 06.04.2024 up to 13:00 Hrs, **Date of opening (Tech. bid):** 08.04.2024 at 12:00 Hrs (if possible). **Contact person:** Executive Engineer, EHV PC O&M Zone, Nashik. Phone No. 0253-2403010/02/07 Fax No. 0253-2403000, For further details please visit to **https://srmetender.mahatransco.in**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer, EHV PC (O&M), Zone, MSETCL, Nashik

SRM E-Tender Notice

MAHATRANSCO

Digitally signed online bids are invited through SRM E-tender process of MSETCL in two bid system from bidders who are registered Electrical Vendors/Contractors of MSETCL for following SRM E-tender;

RFx No.	E-Tender No.	Particulars	Estimated Cost	EMD	Tender Fees
7000030963	T- 53/2023-24	Work of Replacement of existing conductor with High Ampacity Conductor of 132kV Khadka - Juniper Solar (Tighre) Line for RE power evacuation under Nashik Zone	2160.55 Lakhs	Rs. 21,60,551.22/-	Rs. 25,000/- + GST

Sale period: 16.03.2024 to 30.03.2024, **Last Date of Submission:** 30.03.2024 up to 13:00 Hrs, **Date of opening (Tech. bid):** 01.04.2024 at 12:00 Hrs (if possible). **Contact person:** Executive Engineer, EHV PC O&M Zone, Nashik. Phone No. 0253-2403010/02/07 Fax No. 0253-2403000, For further details please visit to **https://srmetender.mahatransco.in**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer, EHV PC (O&M), Zone, MSETCL, Nashik

SRM E-Tender Notice

MAHATRANSCO

Digitally signed online bids are invited through SRM E-tender process of MSETCL in two bid system from bidders who are registered Electrical Vendors/Contractors of MSETCL for following SRM E-tender;

RFx No.	E-Tender No.	Particulars	Estimated Cost	EMD	Tender Fees
7000030969	T- 54/2023-24	Work of Replacement of existing conductor with High Ampacity Conductor of 220kV Gangapur- Shivajinagar Line for RE power evacuation under Nashik Zone.	5681.51 Lakhs	Rs. 56,81,513.95/-	Rs. 25,000/- + GST

Sale period: 16.03.2024 to 06.04.2024, **Last Date of Submission:** 06.04.2024 up to 13:00 Hrs, **Date of opening (Tech. bid):** 08.04.2024 at 12:00 Hrs (if possible). **Contact person:** Executive Engineer, EHV PC O&M Zone, Nashik. Phone No. 0253-2403010/02/07 Fax No. 0253-2403000, For further details please visit to **https://srmetender.mahatransco.in**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer, EHV PC (O&M), Zone, MSETCL, Nashik

Karnataka Bank Ltd.

Your Family Bank. Across India.

Asset Recovery Management Branch,
1st Floor, FKCCI Building,
Kempegowda Road,
Bengaluru-560009

Phone : 080-22955928 (Gen)/22955929 (CM)
E-Mail : blr.arm@ktkbank.com
Website : www.karnatakabank.com
CIN : L85110KA1924PLC001128

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the Authorised Officer of **KARNATAKA BANK LIMITED**, under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated **13.11.2023** calling upon the borrowers/guarantor/mortgagor – **(1) Vijaya Kumar C, S/o Mr. Chandrashekar, Managing Director, M/s ASB Developers & Promoters, Address at:-** 156, ASB Plaza, Magadi Road, Sunkadakatte, Bengaluru-560091, **(2) Mr. Bhagiratha S, S/o Mr. Sadashivaiah, Chairman, M/s ASB Developers & Promoters, Address at:-** 156, ASB Plaza, Magadi Main Road, Sunkadakatte, Bengaluru-560091 **Also at:-** No. 56, "CHANDANA" 11th Cross, 11th -2nd A Main, Mallathahalli, M P Sports Club Road, Bengaluru-560056 and **(3) Mrs. Pankaja M S, W/o Mr. Chandrashekar, Addressed at:-** No.195, Jnanaganganagar, Opp. PVP School, Mallathahalli, Bengaluru-560056, to repay an aggregate amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs.6,32,14,085.83 [Rupees Six Crore Thirty Two Lakhs Fourteen Thousand Eighty Five and Paisa Eighty Three Only] i.e. Rs.2,71,08,297.22 under TL A/c No. 3257001600058001** along with future interest from 30.10.2023 and **Rs.3,61,05,788.61 under TL A/c No. 3257001600064301** along with future interest from 24.10.2023, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers/guarantor/mortgagor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers/guarantor/mortgagor and the public in general **that the undersigned has taken possession of the property** described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this **16th day of March, 2024.**

The borrowers/guarantor/mortgagor in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property mentioned herein below and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **Karnataka Bank Ltd., Bengaluru–Hunsemaranahalli Branch** for an aggregate amount of **Rs.6,58,10,994.83 [Rupees Six Crore Fifty Eight Lakhs Ten Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Four and Paisa Eighty Three Only] i.e. Rs.2,80,60,493.22 under TL A/c 3257001600058001** along with future interest from 29.02.2024 and **Rs.3,77,50,501.61 under TL A/c 3257001600064301** along with future interest from 24.02.2024, plus costs.

[Your attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.]

Description of the Immovable Properties

Item No.1: All that part and parcel of Commercial property land measuring 70785 sqft. or 1 Acre 25 Guntas bearing Sy. No. 145/6, situated at Tavarakere Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Doddaladamara Road, Bangalore South Taluk, Bengaluru-560130, **belonging to Mr. Vijaya Kumar C. Boundaries of property: East by:** Property belonging to Smt. Vijayalakshmi & Children of Sri Siddappa (Sy. No.138); **West by:** Property under Sy. No. 145/9; **North by:** Property belonging to Sri Siddappa S/o Revanna (Sy. No.145/7); **South by:** Property belonging to Smt. Vijayalakshmi & Sri. Gangarevanna (Sy. No. 147 & Road).

Item No.2: All that part and parcel of Commercial property land measuring 28314 sqft. or 26 Guntas bearing Sy. No. 145/9, situated at Tavarakere Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Doddaladamara Road, Bangalore South Taluk, Bengaluru-560130, **belonging to Mr. Vijaya Kumar C. Boundaries of property: East by:** Property under Sy. No. 145/6; **West by:** Property belonging to Sri Siddappa S/o Revanna (Sy. No.145/7); **North by:** Property belonging to Sri Siddappa S/o Revanna (Sy. No.145/7); **South by:** Property belonging to Sri. Gangarevanna & Sri. Doddabalaiah (Sy. No. 147 & Road).

Item No.3: All that part and parcel of residential property bearing No.1299, admeasuring 3875 Sq.ft. or 360 Sq.mtr., (East to West 24 mtrs and North to South 15 mtrs) and residential building constructed thereon consists Stilt+FF+SF+TF measuring total BUA 13200sq.ft situated at the layout formed by the BDA at 8th Block, further extension of Sir M Vishveshwaraiah Layout, Kuvempu Main Road, Near Gidada Konenahalli, Bangalore-560091, **belonging to Mr. Vijaya Kumar C. Boundaries of property: East by:** Road; **West by:** Site No. 1320; **North by:** Site no. 1300; **South by:** Site No. 1298.

Place: Bengaluru Sd/-
Date: 16.03.2024 **CHIEF MANAGER AND AUTHORIZED OFFICER**

SRM E-Tender Notice

MAHATRANSCO

Digitally signed online bids are invited through SRM E-tender process of MSETCL in two bid system from bidders who are registered Electrical Vendors/Contractors of MSETCL for following SRM E-tender;

RFx No.	E-Tender No.	Particulars	Estimated Cost	EMD in Rs.	Tender Fees
7000030954	T- 52/ 2023-24	Work of replacement of existing conductor with High Ampacity Conductor of (HPC) of 132kV Satana-Dindori line for RE power evacuation under Nashik Zone	4209.41 Lakhs	Rs. 42,09,390.74 /-	Rs. 25,000/- + GST

Sale period: 15.03.2024 to 06.04.2024, **Last Date of Submission:** 06.04.2024 up to 10:00 Hrs, **Date of opening (Tech. bid):** 08.04.2024 at 12:00 Hrs (if possible). **Contact person:** Executive Engineer, EHV PC O&M Zone, Nashik. Phone No. 0253- 2403010/02/07 Fax No. 0253-2403000, For further details please visit to **https://srmetender.mahatransco.in**

Chief Engineer, EHV PC (O&M), Zone, MSETCL, Nashik

SRM E-Tender Notice

MAHATRANSCO

Digitally signed online bids are invited through SRM E-tender process of MSETCL in two bid system from bidders who are registered Electrical Vendors/Contractors of MSETCL for following SRM E-tender;

RFx No.	E-Tender No.	Particulars	Estimated Cost	EMD in Rs.	Tender Fees
7000030893	T- 48/ 2023-24	Scheme of replacement of old existing 0.4 Deer ACSR conductor by equivalent CCC type HTLS conductor along with suitable hardware, accessories and porcelain long rod insulator for 220kV Dhule - Malegaon line (Ckt Kms = 80.5 Kms) under EHV O&M Circle, Nashik.	5372.51 Lakhs	Rs. 53,72,508.27/-	Rs. 25,000/- + GST

Sale period: 15.03.2024 to 05.04.2024, **Last Date of Submission:** 05.04.2024 up to 15:00 Hrs, Date of opening (Tech. bid): 05.04.2024 at 17:00 Hrs (if possible). **Contact person:** Executive Engineer, EHV PC O&M Zone, Nashik. Phone No. 0253- 2403010/02/06 Fax No. 0253-2403000, For further details please visit to **https://srmetender.mahatransco.in**

Chief Engineer, EHV PC (O&M), Zone, MSETCL, Nashik

SRM E-Tender Notice

MAHATRANSCO

Digitally signed online bids are invited through SRM E-tender process of MSETCL in two bid system from bidders who are registered Electrical Vendors/Contractors of MSETCL for following SRM E-tender;

RFx No.	E-Tender No.	Particulars	Estimated Cost	EMD in Rs.	Tender Fees
7000030916	T- 49/ 2023-24	Work of replacement of existing 0.4 ACSR conductor along with hardwares by High Performance Conductor (HPC) of 220kV Gangapur - Satana line (Length= 111ckm) for RE power evacuation under Green Energy Corridor (GEC) under Nashik Zone.	7567.03 Lakhs	Rs. 7,567,026.08/-	Rs. 25,000/- + GST

Sale period: 15.03.2024 to 05.04.2024, **Last Date of Submission:** 05.04.2024 up to 17:00 Hrs, **Date of opening (Tech. bid):** 05.04.2024 at 17:30 Hrs (if possible). **Contact person**: Executive Engineer, EHV PC O&M Zone, Nashik. Phone No. 0253- 2403010/02/07 Fax No. 0253-2403000, For further details please visit to **https://srmetender.mahatransco.in**

Chief Engineer, EHV PC (O&M), Zone, MSETCL, Nashik

SRM E-Tender Notice

MAHATRANSCO

Digitally signed online bids are invited through SRM E-tender process of MSETCL in two bid system from bidders who are registered Electrical Vendors/Contractors of MSETCL for following SRM E-tender;

RFx No.	E-Tender No.	Particulars	Estimated Cost	EMD in Rs.	Tender Fees
7000030938	T- 50/ 2023-	Work of replacement of existing 0.4 ACSR conductor along with hardwares by High Performance Conductor (HPC) of 220kV Malegaon-Shivajinagar line (Length =113ckm) for RE power evacuation under Green Energy Corridor (GEC) under Nashik Zone.	7608.89 Lakhs	Rs. 76,08,894.31/-	Rs. 25,000/- + GST

Sale period: 15.03.2024 to 05.04.2024, **Last Date of Submission**: 05.04.2024 up to 18:00 Hrs, **Date of opening (Tech. bid):** 08.04.2024 at 12:00 Hrs (if possible). **Contact person:** Executive Engineer, EHV PC O&M Zone, Nashik. Phone No. 0253- 2403010/02/07 Fax No. 0253-2403000, For further details please visit to **https://srmetender.mahatransco.in**

Chief Engineer, EHV PC (O&M), Zone, MSETCL, Nashik

NOTICE INVITING TENDER CPD-75/2023-24

MAHATRANSCO

Tenders are invited through e-Tendering in SRM system from the registered vendors for Supply of following:

Tender No. & Description of Material	Estimated Amount (in Rs. Lakhs) / Tender Fee (in Rs.)	Due Date & Time (Hrs.) for Submission & Opening of Tender
SP/T-0510/0324 [RFX No. 5000001210] (Two Bid System) Procurement of 132kV & 220kV Voltage Class Power Transformers/ ICTs of various ratings (108 Nos.) alongwith New Uninhibited High Grade Mineral Insulating Oil for Augmentation Schemes and Emergency/Critical Spares for various Zones of MSETCL [Including Power Transformers (11 Nos.) Re-Tendered against SP/T-0501/0124 [Rfx No.5000001183]	56459.97 25,000.00	19.04.2024 Up to 16:00 Hrs. 19.04.2024 at 16:15 Hrs.

Contact Person: Office of the Executive Engineer (Gr.P&C)
Tel. No. : 022- 69852720/69852711/08329909813
Email: eepc@mahatransco.in, eegrp6@mahatransco.in.
For further details visit our website http://www.srmetender.mahatransco.in
Any further amendments will be published on the MSETCL website www.mahatransco.in. So bidders are requested to check the website.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer (P&C)

ODISHA MINING CORPORATION LIMITED

OMC House, Bhubaneswar-751001,Odisha
CIN: U13100OR1956SGC000313, www.omcltd.in

OMC ODISHA NEW OPPORTUNITIES Mining Happiness

CAD-4690 **E-Procurement Notice**

Bid document No.: OMC/E-PROC/CMC/149/2023-24 dated 15/03/2024

1	Work name	Supply, Installation and Commissioning of ICP-OES, Bomb Calorimeter and Thermo Gravimetric Analyzer with one year (01) warranty and five (05) years Comprehensive AMC (CAMC) for Directorate of Mines & Geology (DoMG), Odisha (through e-tendering)
2	Availability of tender documents on the e-tendering portal of Government of Odisha	Date: 16.03.2024
3	Bid Due Date	Date: 19.04.2024, Time 3.00 PM

All other details can be seen from the Tender Document available on the e-procurement portal of the Government of Odisha (www.tendersodisha.gov.in) and on the website of OMC (www.omcltd.in). OMC reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
OIPR-30005/11/0342/2324 Head (C&P)

ODISHA MINING CORPORATION LIMITED

OMC House, Bhubaneswar-751001,Odisha
CIN: U13100OR1956SGC000313, www.omcltd.in

OMC ODISHA NEW OPPORTUNITIES Mining Happiness

CAD-4698 **E-Procurement Notice**

Bid document No.: OMC/E-PROC/CMC/148/2023-24 dated 15.03.2023

1	Work name	Operation and Comprehensive Maintenance of 1(one) CAAQMS having PM10 & PM2.5 online Analyzers installed near Bhadrasahi Chakk in Keonjhar District of Odisha with data transmission facility to SPCB/CPCB server for a period of 5 years
2	Availability of tender documents on the e-tendering portal of Government of Odisha	Date: 16.03.2024
3	Bid Due Date	Date: 15.04.2024, Time 3.00 PM

All other details can be seen from the Tender Document available on the e-procurement portal of the Government of Odisha (www.tendersodisha.gov.in) and on the website of OMC (www.omcltd.in). OMC reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
OIPR-30005/11/0335/2324 Head (C&P)

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, P.H. DIVISION, BALANGIR.

Email. ID -eephbgr@yahoo.co.in, Ph. No - (06652 - 234647)

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement

C- **Invitation for Bid (IFB) Dtd.15.03.2024**

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Bid Identification No.	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lakh)	Class of Contractor	Period of Completion	Availability of Bid Document for Online Bidding	
1.	Supply of ISI Marked DI K7 and K 9 pipes in connection with the work Augmentation of water supply system along with ancillary work for Binika Town.	SE PH BGR 23/2023-24 Dt. 15.03.2024	303.78	Manufacturer	2 Months	22.03.2024	06.04.2024

Name & Adress of Officer Inviting Bid: **The Superintending Engineer, Office Of The Superintending Engineer, Public Health Division, Balangir, At-Tulasinagar, Po/ Dist-Balangir, Pin-767001, Odisha, Phone:-06652-234647, E-mail:-eephbgr@yahoo.co.in**

- Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement portal **"https://www.tenderodisha.gov.in.**
- All amendments, time extension, clarifications etc. will be uploaded in the website only. Bidders should regularly visit the above website to keep themselves updates.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer
OIPR- 13005/11/0029/2324 **P.H. Division, Balangir**

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER & BASIN MANAGER
TEL BASIN, BHAWANIPATNA, DIST.KALAHANDI

E-mail ID: cetelbasinbhp@gmail.com/ Phone No: 06670-230209

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

E-Procurement Notice No:- CE&BM,TEL - 22/2023-24
Bid Identification No: CETEL-TID-03/2023-24

A-1713: The Chief Engineer & Basin Manager, Tel Basin, Bhawanipatna on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites on-line **percentage rate tender** through e-procurement in **double cover system** execution of work.

Table - 1: Details of Critical Dates, details of work, Bid Security

Pkg. No.	Name of works	Approx. Tender Cost	Class of Contractor	Bid Security / EMD (online) (in INR)	Cost of tender document- (on-line)- (in INR)	Period of Completion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Construction of Flood Protection Embankment on Mahanadi right from Panisiali to PWD Bridge at Sonepur from RD.00 m to 1750 m	Rs. 789,41,115/- (Excluding G.S.T)	'A' and Special Class	Rs. 7,89,411/-	Rs. 10,000/-	12 (Twelve) Calendar Months

Table — 2: e-Procurement Details

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender on-line for bidding		Date of Seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender		Place of opening
		From	To		Technical Bid	Financial Bid	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Chief Engineer & Basin Manager, Tel Basin, Bhawanipatna	CETEL-TID 03/2023-24	Dt 19.03.2024 at 11.00 hours	Dt 08.04.2024 up to 17.30 hours	Dt 19.03.2024 to 06.04.2024 at Office during office hours.	Dt 09.04.2024 at 11.00 Hours	To be intimated after evaluation of Technical Bid.	Office of Chief Engineer &Basin Manager, Tel Basin, Bhawanipatna

Further details can be seen from the Govt. Web site www.tendersodisha.gov.in, *Other Terms & conditions can be seen from the Government website www.tendersodisha.gov.in, *The Corrigendum/ cancellation of Tender, if any, will be uploaded and can be seen from the above website only.

Sd/- Chief Engineer & Basin Manager
OIPR-32317/11/0026/2324 **Tel Basin, Bhawanipatna**

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BALASORE

By E_Mail/e-Despatch : E_Mail ID : serw_balasore@yahoo.in, Ph-No-06782/260318, Balia, Balasore

"e" Procurement Notice for Road Work

Identification No.- Online Tender- Road N.C.B. No. 92 for 2023-24

O-2812 **Letter No. 1533 Date. 13.03.2024**

1. Name of the work :- **Special Assistance to States Capital Investment (SACI)**
2. Total No. of work :- 1 No. of work.
3. Estimated Cost :- From Rs. 523.25 lakhs (Approximately)
4. Eligible Class of Contractor :- As per annexure
5. Period of Completion :- As per annexure
6. Other details :-

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender On-line for bidding		Last Date & Time of seeking Tender Clarification.	Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/O S.E.R.W.Circle, Balasore	
		From	To		Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Balasore	NCB No.- 92	18.03.2024 at 11.00 A.M	02.04.2024 up to 5.00 P.M.	30.03.2024 up to 5.00 P.M.	03.04.2024 at 11.00 A.M.	Will be intimated later.

- **Further details can be seen from the website: www.tendersodisha.gov.in**

Sd/- N.V Harihar Rao,
Chief Engineer, R.W. Circle, Balasore. OIPR- 25105/11/0124/2324

GOVT. OF ODISHA, OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER RURAL WORKS CIRCLE: KEONJHAR

Tel. 06766-258301(0), email: se_nerwkjr@rediffmail.com

No.1297 **Date: 12-03-2024**

1st Corrigendum Notice

O-2818: Under unavoidable circumstances, **the availability of tender online for bidding & opening of Technical Bids** of the tender invited vide eProcurement Notice No. 957 Dtd: 22.02.24 / Bid Identification No. Road with Bridge Online **NCB No. 424** of Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Keonjhar is hereby rescheduled as below.

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender Online for bidding		Last Date & Time of seeking Tender Clarification	Date &Time of Opening of Tender in O/o C.C.E., R.W. Circe, Keonjhar	
		From	To		Technialal Bid	Fiancial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Keonjhar	**Road with Bridge Online NCB No. 424**	**Dt.29.02.24 at 11.00 A.M**	**Dt.28.02.24 up to 5.00 P.M**	**Dt.27.03.24 up to 5.00 P.M**	**Dt.30.03.24 at 11.00 A.M**	**Will be intimated later**

All other contents remain unchanged.

Sd/- Chief Engineer, R.W. Circle, Keonjhar OIPR-25177/11/0079/2324

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BALASORE

E-Mail ID: serw_balasore@yahoo.in, Ph: 06782/260318, Balia, Balasore

"e" Procurement Notice for Bridge work

Identification No. Online Tender Bridge NCB No.94 of 2023-24

O-2823 **Letter No.1614 /WE, Dt. 15.03.2024**

1. Name of the work :- **Bridge Works**
2. Total No. of work :- As per Annexure
3. Estimated Cost :- As per Annexure
4. Time for completion :- As per Annexure
5. No. of Work :- As per Annexure
6. Other details :-

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender On-line for bidding		Last Date & Time of seeking Tender Clarification.	Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/o C.C.E. RW. Circle, Balasore	
		From	To		Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Balasore	NCB No.- 94 of 2023-24	22.03.2024 at 11.00 A.M	08.04.2024 up to 5.00 P.M.	06.04.2024 up to 5.00 P.M.	09.04.2024 at 01.00 A.M.	Will be intimated later

Further details can be seen from the website: **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**

Sd/- Er. N.V. Harihar Rao, Chief Engineer, R.W. Circle, Balasore OIPR- 25105/11/0126/2324

ମୁଖ୍ୟ ନିର୍ମାଣ ଯନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟ, ଗ୍ରାମ୍ୟ ନିର୍ମାଣ ମଣ୍ଡଳ, ବ୍ରହ୍ମପୁର

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR

(E-Mail:- serwbpr2004@yahoo.com, Tel/Fax:- 0680-2404287)

At:- Ambapua, Po:- Engineering School Near Income Tax office, Berhampur-760011

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement

O-2819 **Bid Identification No. Online Tender/105-2023-24/BPR**

Identification No	Name of work	No. of Works	Approx. Estimated Cost (in lakh)	Class of Contractor	Period of Completion
Online Tender / 105-2023-24/BPR	Road Works including 05 years Post Construction maintenance under IMPVT. EXISTING RD ROADS for the year 2023-24	01 No	Rs. 132.30 Lakhs	"B" Class & "A" Class as applicable	11 (Eleven) Calendar Month as provided

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No	Availability of tender online for bidding	
		From	To
Chief Construction Engineer, R.W.Circle, Berhampur	Online Tender /105-2023-24/BPR	28.03.2024 at 10.00 A.M.	12.04.2024 upto 5.30 P.M.

(i) EMD / Bid Security, Cost of Bid document is to be transferred through Online as per the procedure mentioned in the DTCN.

(ii) Non-submission of the information/documents through online by the bidder as per the items mentioned in the eligible criteria of the DTCN will also liable for rejection of his tender.

Further details & Corrigendum if any can be seen from the website: - www.tendersodisha.gov.in

Sd/- Chief Construction Engineer, R.W.Circle, Berhampur **OIPR- 25071/11/0124/2324**

YES BANK Yes Bank Limited

Prestige obelisk, Municipal No.3, Ground Floor, Kasturba Road, Bangalore-560001

POSSESSION NOTICE (U/s. Rule 8 (1) - for immovable property)

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of YES Bank Ltd. under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financials Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act,2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Sec.13(12) read with rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notices calling upon the respective borrowers mentioned hereunder to repay the amounts mentioned in the respective notices U/s.13(2) of the said Act within a period of 60 days.

The respective borrowers having failed to repay the said amounts, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on me under Sec.13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 9 of the said Rules.

The respective borrowers in particular and public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the said properties and any dealing with these properties will be subject to the charge of the YES Bank Ltd. for the respective amount mentioned herein below along with interest thereon at contracted rate.

Sr. No.	Agreement No.:	Type of Loan:	O/s. As per 13(2) Notice:	Sec.13(2) Notice Date:	Symbolic Date:
1	No.:AFH002200799997& AFH002200799996	AHF	Rs. 34,51,185.23	17-11-2023	13-03-2024

Name of Borrowers, co-borrowers, guarantors, Mortgagors: Smt. Bharathi G V&Sri. Prabhakar Reddy

Details of secured asset: All that piece and parcel of the residential property having property Site No.486, Khata No.524/7, CMC Khata No.524/486/7, BBMP Katha No.1773/524/486/7 situated at Maruthi Nagar, Yelahanka, Bangalore North Taluk, measuring East to west 20 feet, North to South 62 feet, total area 1240 Sq.ft and bounded as on follows:

East by : Road,West by: Property belongs to the sons of Smt. Lakshmidevamma, Noth by : Property of K.V.Narasimhaiah, South by : Property of K.V. Sadashivaiah.

Sr. No.	Agreement No.:	Type of Loan:	O/s. As per 13(2) Notice:	Sec.13(2) Notice Date:	Symbolic Date:
2	MOR002201098485	AHF	2,68,77,131.01	15-11-2023	13-03-2024

Name of Borrowers, co-borrowers, guarantors, Mortgagors: M/s Rheotech Foundry Private Limited, Sri. Gobinath T,Smt.Thangamari,Sri. BalasubramaniamMuthiah&Smt. Chitra Balasubramaniam.

Details of secured asset: All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Katha No. 239A, Portion of Site No. 13, along with Site No. 14, being adjacent sites, and residential building standing thereon, situated at Geddalahalli Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore, Now known as K.G.E layout 7th Cross, Now comes under the jurisdiction of the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Ward No.100. Measuring east to west 50 feet, north to south 40 feet, totally measuring 2000 sq.ft. And Property is bounded on the:

East by: Road, West by: Private Property, North by: Site No.15., South by: Remaining Portion of House List No.13 of the Vendor.

This is to bring to your attention that under Sec.13(8) of SARFAESI Act, where the amount of dues of the secured creditor together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by secured creditor is tendered to the secured creditor at any time before the date of publication of notice for the public auction/ tender/ private treaty, the secured asset shall not be sold or transferred and no further steps shall be taken for transfer or sale of that secured asset.

Dated: 17-03-2024, Place: Bangalore Sd/– Authorized Officer - For YES BANK Limited

Djokovic withdraws from Miami Open

Novak Djokovic will skip the Miami Open, saying less than a week after a surprise loss at Indian Wells that he needs to balance his 'private and professional schedule.' Djokovic's announcement Saturday on his social media accounts follows his 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 defeat to unheralded Luca Nardi on Monday in the third round.

SOPHOMORE LESSONS

With the second year of WPL coming to a close, **Kalyani Mangale** takes a look at areas players have upskilled, where work needs to be done and more...

Sunday Special

AFTER 21 matches across two venues, the final of the second season of the Women's Premier League is here. Unlike the first season in 2023, which Parth Jindal, the owner of the Delhi Capitals, summarised as "a student trying to learn the entire year's syllabus in the last nine days," the franchise and even players had enough time and experience behind them.

For the first time, players were aware of the designated window for the WPL season and the work that went behind the scenes since the inaugural season became more meaningful and it was on full display this time around. Take for example Anjali Sarvani of UP Warriorz. An untimely knee injury led to the left-arm pacer missing out on India's first-ever Asian Games campaign and two Tests on home soil. But, she knew she could get fit in time for WPL. "Because of this injury, I got time to build myself and work on my fitness. Instead of thinking everything is gone. I thought, well, I have WPL and I had the perfect time to be fit for it. All I was focusing on was getting better," Sarvani said.

The existence of a tournament like WPL has created a window for the players in India to show their talent. This in itself is one of the great achievements of the sophomore season. Throughout the season, the Indian experienced players' contribution, in some cases, has been on par with that of their international counterparts. "If you look at the likes of Asha Sobhana, Arundhati Reddy, Tanjua Kanwar, Radha Yadav have stepped up this season, virtually on par with some of the foreign players," Aarti Sankaran, former cricketer turned coach, who has been part of the broadcast team for this season told this daily. "Take Amelia Kerr, a New Zealand international, and Asha for example as two leg spinners. Asha has definitely done better with the ball this season. One of the areas of growth for me has been the contribution of Indian domestic bowlers," she added. With 10 wickets each to Asha, Reddy, and Kanwar with all of them having bowling economy of just north of 7 prove her point.

In the batting department, however, there is still a gap between domestic players and internationals. The list of highest run-getters in the tournament is full of Indian and overseas internationals. S Meghana, who has not played any international cricket for India in recent years, is ranked 17 in the list dominated by international players with 168 runs off six innings. Sankaran believes that is the next challenge for domestic players. "With batting, I think we are not on par yet. International players like Harmanpreet Kaur, Smriti Mandhana, and even Richa Ghosh are at that level. The batting in the domestic matches needs to be re-evaluated. We have to think that we cannot have the same set of players in all formats going ahead. Keeping in mind the necessities WPL brings to the sport and with T20 World Cups coming up every two years and even the U19 World Cup, we need to reassess the way domestic batters play and start giving them very specific roles," Sankaran pointed out.

All said and done, one of the best outcomes to come out of this season is how much the Indian internationals have dominated the game. Whether it is Deepti Sharma being the leading run scorer for the UP Warriorz or Jemimah Rodrigues playing her role in the middle overs for Delhi Capitals on numerous occasions. With the T20 World Cup in Bangladesh a few months away, the performance of these players and the competition for the spots in the playing XI is the brightest spot for Indian team management. "Players like Jemimah for example, who was not considered as a power hitter otherwise, has come back and played well in the season. Yastika Bhatia and Richa Ghosh have improved their keeping so much. These players have gone back to the drawing board and worked hard. They are competing against each other. Those who are trying to go out of their comfort zone are being rewarded. Deepti Sharma getting out of her comfort zone or Pooja Vastrakar finding her place in the middle over, for example. Now they know that WPL could bring someone to the limelight," Sankaran said.

Will the learned lessons improve the overall quality of the game in the country? Only time will tell. For now, all eyes are on the Arun Jaitley Stadium in New Delhi where the new champion will be crowned on Sunday.

Final showdown

With Royal Challengers Bangalore and Delhi Capitals taking on each other, WPL will have a new winner on Sunday. A look at the summit clash...

Smriti's rollercoaster

From a forgettable season last year to reaching the final, Smriti Mandhana has been through a rollercoaster in the WPL. She has had a role in putting together the squad to rallying around the youngsters through the season. She has the chance to fulfil the dream that has eluded RCB fans forever by winning the trophy.

Another title for Meg?

While Meg Lanning has won everything there is to win as an international captain, she is yet to get her hands on the trophy in a T20 league. She came close with Melbourne Stars in WBBL 06 and DC last year in the WPL. With momentum and a better team combination, Lanning has another chance on Sunday. Can she?

Delhi Capitals vs Royal Challengers Bangalore, New Delhi

Live on JioCinema and Sports18, 7.30 PM

All England Open: Lakshya's magic run ends in semifinal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

India's Lakshya Sen plays a shot during the men's singles semifinal match against Indonesia's Jonatan Christie at the All England Open Badminton | AP

LAKSHYA Sen has been a different beast in the last two weeks or so. Playing his men's singles semifinal match of the ongoing All England Open Championships in Birmingham on Saturday, that was evident as he stretched Jonatan Christie, his opponent on the day, to the limits. After conceding the opening game, where he looked completely off (primarily due to Christie's game intelligence), Lakshya switched on his fighting spirit, something that has been key to his success over the years. Smashes, good defences (he even pulled off a defence when the score read 18-6 in Lakshya's favour that could make the cut in one of his highlight reels on YouTube), you name it all, it was simply mesmerizing.

With Prakash Padukone (the first Indian to win the prestigious All England Open Championships) and U Vimal Kumar by his side, he signalled another comeback story. He had taken a similar route less than twenty four hours ago. But alas, it was not to be. Christie, despite being rattled for the majority of the second game, regained his composure before pulling off a three-game win (12-21, 21-10, 21-15).

Despite the defeat, his run in the last two weeks (he also reached the French Open semis) or so is a massive win for him and the Indian badminton fraternity. Before that, he was staring at uncertainty in regards to Olympic Games qualification. "I'm happy with the way I played in the second game. I hoped for better results in the third," Lakshya said after the match. While the 22-year-old will have some positives from the run at Birmingham, one thing he wants to focus on is to close out matches in two games.

After a relatively straightforward win in the first round, Sen took the scenic route in his next two wins. It impacted his recovery process, something he openly admitted after the match. It's something he had done at the French Open too, with each of his four games going the distance. "I will want to close out matches in two games," he said.

Similarly for Christie, this run to the finals (he's set to face Indonesian counterpart Anthony Sinisuka Ginting) is a big morale booster. Like Lakshya, Christie had endured a patchy run. Irrespective of the outcome in the finals, this experience could give him a massive kick ahead of the Olympics.

Yamaguchi trumps An

An Se-young has been a dominant force in the women's singles category. However, she showed that she's human on Saturday. In fact, at one point of time it looked like the South Korean would limp towards the finish line because of a heavily-strapped knee. It was clearly impacting her immobility but she kept at it as she made Akane Yamaguchi of Japan, her semifinal opponent, work for the points in each of the next two stanzas. The World No 1 lost 21-10, 19-21, 21-14.

EXPRESS READ

Lifter Achinta expelled from Oly prep camp

NEW DELHI: Commonwealth Games medallist weightlifter Achinta Sheuli has been expelled from the Paris Olympics preparatory camp after he was caught entering the women's hostel on Thursday night at NIS Patiala. The 22-year-old was caught by security personnel, who made a video of the lifter.

Ram breaches Paris Games qualification mark

NEW DELHI: India's Ram Baboo on Saturday achieved the Paris Olympics men's 20km race qualification standard, clocking a personal best time of 1:20:00 at the Dudinska 50 Meet in Slovakia. Baboo finished third in this Race Walking Tour Gold-Level event. This is the first time an Indian athlete is finishing on the podium in this meet.

Coventry reach first FA Cup semis since 1987

AGENCIES @Wolverhampton (UK)

COVENTRY scored twice deep into stoppage time to stun Wolves 3-2 at Molineux and reach the FA Cup semifinals for the first time since they won the competition in 1987. The Championship side looked to have blown their chance to reach Wembley when Wolves themselves scored twice in the final seven minutes of the 90. However, Ellis Simms' second goal of the match levelled in the 97th minute before he teed up Hagi Wright to fire into the corner three minutes later.

The home side were without all of Gary O'Neil's preferred front three of Pedro Neto, Hwang Hee-chan and Matheus Cunha due to injury. And it was Coventry who created the vast majority of the chances. Simms had missed an incredible opportunity in the first half when he miscued with the goal gaping. But the former Everton striker has now scored 10 goals in his last eight games. The ball rebounded off Simms from Liam Kitching's header across goal eight minutes into the second half and was allowed to stand despite a check for handball against the Coventry frontman.

India off-spinner R Ashwin and his family were felicitated by Tamil Nadu Cricket Association at MA Chidambaram Stadium, Chennai on Saturday | ASHWIN PRASATH

'Ashwin has kept art of spin bowling alive'

ASHOK VENUGOPAL @ Chennai

India's ace spinner and the ICC No 1 ranked Test bowler R Ashwin was felicitated by the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association for playing 100 Tests and bagging 500 wickets at a glittering function at the MA Chidambaram here on Saturday.

Ashwin's father Ravichandran, his wife Prithi and his daughters were present at the Chepauk to watch him being honoured. The TNCA presented mementos for his 100 Tests, 500 wickets. Ashwin was presented with a Sengol — symbol of pride. TNCA also gave Ashwin a cash award of ₹1 crore.

Former India player and BCCI president Roger Binny said that Ashwin has brought laurels to his state and country. "He has kept the art of spin bowling alive. I congratulate Ashwin and his family for the fantastic achievement. We hope that you stay fit, stay healthy and do well," said Binny.

Former BCCI and TNCA president N Srinivasan lauded Ashwin for his dedication and hard work. "To be selected (for India) itself is difficult. Then you have to take wickets, overcome obstacles in your journey and move on. Thus taking 500 wickets is a remarkable achievement," complimented Srinivasan. Former India cricketer, captain and chief selector K Srikkanth insisted that the ace offie had made Tamil Nadu cricket proud with his achievement. Anil Kumble spoke about the common threads he has with Ashwin.

Ashwin thanked one and all for making his journey so far wonderful. "Truly, truly, truly humbled and grateful. I don't know who to thank. In fact, the people sitting in this audience are all people that I know by name and I would be failing in my duties, If I didn't thank some of them. This very place is special (Chepauk). Long, long time ago I remember Kasi Viswanathan as we are seeing him today, the CEO of CSK, the former secretary of the TNCA. I remember him walking out of this one of these old doors here, in his formals congratulating me for being selected in the Tamil Nadu cricket team in the Under-14s. That's really is how long ago all these people were interested and have truly made this journey," said Ashwin.

Never tried to convince Hardik to stay back: Nehra

AHMEDABAD: Gujarat Titans head coach Ashish Nehra on Saturday said he never tried to convince **Hardik Pandya** against returning to Mumbai Indians but conceded that the star all-rounder's experience would be dearly missed by the team. Pandya, who led GT to IPL title in their maiden year before taking them to the final last year, has moved back to Mumbai Indians as their skipper for the upcoming season. "I never tried to convince Pandya to stay back. As you play more, you gain experience. I could have stopped him had he gone to any other franchise. He (Pandya) played here for two years but he has gone to a team (MI), where he has played previously for 5-6 years," Nehra told mediapersons in Ahmedabad on Saturday. "The manner in which the sport (cricket) is moving, we will have trades and transfers like we see in international soccer. It's a new challenge for him and may be he will learn something new and we wish him the best." Nehra was predictably asked about how he looked at Shubman Gill's elevation as the skipper and how he would manage a team full of seniors. "As a new captain, I want to see how he (Gill) operates and not just me, the whole India would like to see because he is that kind of a player," the former left-arm seamer said. "He is looking to play and do well in all three formats, so we as a franchise would like to help him grow more as a person than as a captain. If he grows as a person, he will grow more as a captain going forward and get better and better," the coach said.

ROHIT HAVING THE FREEDOM WILL BE BENEFICIAL FOR MI: FINCH

NEW DELHI: With the burden of captaincy off his shoulders, Rohit Sharma will be able to play with a lot of freedom which will help five-time champions Mumbai Indians, reckoned former Australia T20 skipper Aaron Finch. Hardik Pandya will lead MI this season, replacing Rohit. "I think for Rohit, the challenge would be just walking out and opening the batting as he's done so many times for India and Mumbai over the years. This might be a wipe off for his shoulders," Finch said during Star Sports' Show Game Plan. "When you are captaining a team constantly, everywhere you go you are captain of the team. You can get engrossed a lot in that, so now having the freedom to walk out and bat will be beneficial for him personally and Mumbai Indians."

CHASING DREAMS

I'm sure I can qualify for Olympics, says boxer Nishant

ANMOL GURUNG @ Chennai

INDIAN boxing is facing a grim reality at the moment.

The disastrous campaign of Indian boxers in the recent World Boxing Tournament, an Olympic qualifier, was a big eye-opener for the boxing fraternity in the country. Amidst the doom and gloom surrounding the sport, Nishant Dev is abuzz. Among nine participants from the country in Italy, Nishant was the only pugilist who returned with a good amount of goodwill. The 23-year-old from Haryana came close to challenging for the Olympic quota. Despite putting up a fierce fight, the quota eventually proved to be beyond his reach after he lost in the quarterfinals. Having come so close, it was a tough pill to swallow for the 2023 World Championships bronze medallist who plies his trade in the 71-kg category. "It was a very close fight in the quarterfinals. I gave it all but just missed out. However, I'm happy with my overall experience," Nishant noted.

Nishant's brave effort does not come as a surprise. He's one of the few young faces to have emerged in recent years and had entered the Italy meet with a fair chance of challenging for the Olympic quota. In the last Asian Games he had missed out at the same stage. Prior to that, he had captured a bronze at the World Championships. What has made him a formidable fighter is his attitude towards the sport. One can imagine the pain the boxers and the coaching staff must have felt as India suffered a slow death during the latest qualifier, losing one boxer after another. "It was tough to see my fellow boxers lose. But I don't get drawn into negativity easily. I just kept my focus and concentrated on myself," he said.

India boxing's High Performance Director Bernard Dunne and the other coaches have been one of the key talking points in the last couple of days or so. Dunne and the rest of the coaches' futures remain uncertain as the BFI look to find solutions. "I have not had any issues. I have had support from the word go. I have also learnt quite a bit from them. In fact, we (boxers in the camp) don't discuss such matters," Nishant said, when asked about his experience under the coaches.

Nishant Dev (right) still has a chance to qualify for Paris Olympics in Bangkok meet

It's clear to ascertain that Nishant is just focussed on his boxing. His desire remains undiminished and he's now determined to address the unfinished business of getting the Olympic quota in the final qualifying event, scheduled to be held in Bangkok from May 23 to June 3. "I'm sure that I can qualify. I'll work on whatever I'm lacking at the moment," he declared. Judging in boxing has always been a highly-debated topic over the years. That is one aspect that boxers should take note of while doing their drills in the training hall. Nishant seems to have gotten some idea of what the judges are looking out for. "The judges are very particular about your body language, your style even during the last few minutes of the bout. Compared to my rivals, they have better balance in the final rounds. The manner I operate, throw punches during latter stages of the bout is vital. I need to improve on that aspect."

Nishant is currently taking a much-needed break and looking to ensure that his body recovers properly before he resumes training. The coaches have already sent him a training plan and he's likely to start light practice from next week.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Arun Goel was a distinguished member of our team and I thoroughly enjoyed working with him. But personal space should not be touched... We must respect if he (Goel) had personal reasons to quit

Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar

WHY CAA HAS POLARISED THE POLITY

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

FOUR years after the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill got parliamentary and presidential assent, its rules were notified recently, paving the way for grant of Indian citizenship to non-Muslim illegal immigrants from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan. For the BJP and the RSS, the CAA is the unfinished business of partition in 1947, as it gives protection to persecuted minorities from the three neighbouring countries.

Coming as it does ahead of 2024 Lok Sabha elections, the Opposition blames the BJP for polarising the polity for narrow vote bank politics. The US State Department, too, shared its concern, adding they were closely monitoring its rollout. It drew a sharp retort from the foreign office. Widespread agitations in 2019 after the CAA cleared the Parliament test had seemingly put the genie back in the bottle. People's power had triumphed. Or so it seemed. But the government was simply biding its time. For, it strategically notified the rules just before the general elections.

The Opposition described the CAA as narrowly focused, conservative and a non-secular piece of legislation. It argued that the Constitution does not allow the government to enact a law based on religion, as it infringes on the provisions of Article 14, which assures equality before law. The matter is expected to come up before the Supreme Court soon.

Union home minister Amit Shah recently said, "There is no need for minorities or any other person to fear because there is no provision in CAA to take away anyone's citizenship. CAA is only to give rights and citizenship to Hindus, Buddhists, Jains, Sikhs, Christians and Parsi refugees from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan."

Persecuted minorities

Article 14 states that "the State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India." The Supreme Court in its 1974 verdict said that Article 14 gives a guarantee against any arbitrary action of the state. But the government claims that legislative action for a particular classification would not be deemed arbitrary if it is based on an intelligible differentia having a reasonable relation to its objective. The CAA satisfies that principle, it contends. The law was crafted with the specific purpose of providing Indian citizenship to persecuted minorities who entered India illegally before December 31, 2014 from Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh.

The CAA explicitly leaves out Muslims and addresses the needs of migrant minorities from those countries. The assumption is that since Muslims are the majority in Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh, they did not suffer religious persecution.

Amnesty scheme

The government describes the CAA as a benign piece of legislation that seeks to provide a relaxation, in the nature of an amnesty, to specific communities from specified countries with a clear cut-off date. The Union home ministry's counter affidavit in the Supreme Court in 2020 said, "The CAA is a specific amendment that seeks to tackle a specific problem, i.e., the persecution on the ground of religion in the light of the undisputable theocratic constitutional position in these specified countries, the systematic functioning of these states and the perception of fear that may be prevalent amongst minorities as per the de facto situation in these countries."

"But no government took any legislative measure and merely acknowledged the problem and took some administrative action through executive instructions regarding entry, stay and citizenship issues of these classified communities."

Biggest beneficiaries

Hindu refugees from Bangladesh who are Matuas comprise 17.4% of the West Bengal population, the second largest after Rajbanshis in the state. The BJP had promised them citizenship through the CAA. They are mainly concentrated in 24 North and South Parganas, and bordering districts such as Cooch Behar, North and South Dinajpur, Malda and Nadia.

The Rajbanshis from north Bengal, who include Hindu refugees from Bangladesh, could benefit from CAA. The community comprises 75.2% of the Scheduled Caste population and 37.7% of the total population, according to the 2011 census. They mainly live in Cooch Behar, Jalpaiguri, Alipurduars, North Dinajpur and South Dinajpur. While Matuas hold sway in more than six Lok Sabha seats, the Rajbanshis have influence in seven other constituencies. That is the game-changer role the BJP hopes the CAA could play in West Bengal.

Elsewhere, around 180 such refugee families live in the Majnu Ka Tila area of Delhi. In Rajasthan, around 17,574 non-Muslims from Pakistan are staying on long-term visas. There are nearly 42,000 Hindu refugees in 19 districts of Uttar Pradesh, including Pilibhit, Meerut, Muzaffarnagar, Agra, Bareilly, Lucknow and Gorakhpur, according to surveys conducted for the CAA. As many as 37,004 of them are in Pilibhit alone.

States have no say

States like Tamil Nadu, Kerala and West Bengal claim they will not implement the CAA. But they have little say in the matter as the entire process is digital. Besides, both the empowered committee that will decide on the grant of citizenship and the district-level committees that will verify the documents submitted by the applicant, will be controlled by the Centre. Quorum of both the committees will be two, including the chair.

At the state level, the committee shall be headed by the director (Census operations) of the state/UT concerned and comprise a subsidiary IB officer not below the rank of deputy secretary, jurisdictional foreigners' regional registration officer (FRRO), state informatics officer of NIC of the state/UT; and postmaster general of the state/UT. A representative of the office of the principal secretary (home) or additional chief secretary (home) of the state/UT and a representative of the jurisdictional divisional railway manager will be invitees.

At the district level, the committee shall be headed by a jurisdictional senior superintendent or superintendent of Post, who shall be the designated officer. It will also comprise the district informatics officer/assistant and a nominee of the Central government. A representative not below rank of naib tehsildar or equivalent from the office of district collector and jurisdictional station master of railways will be invitees to the district committee.

Application process

The complete process for registration for seeking citizenship under the CAA has to be done online. The government has already launched a dedicated portal (indiancitizenshiponline.nic.in). A mobile app (CAA-2019) and a toll-free helpline number will follow soon.

Under schedule 1B of the CAA, the home ministry has listed 17 documents that applicants can furnish to prove they entered India on or before 31 December 2014. These include a copy of the visa and immigration stamp at the time of arrival in India; government-issued documents and licenses such as driving license and Aadhaar; any letter issued to the applicant by any court or government with a time stamp; ration card of the applicant; birth certificate of the applicant issued in India; land or tenancy certificate of the applicant; PAN card showing its date of issue; insurance policies, marriage certificate, school leaving certificate, among others.

Proof of nationality

To prove they hail from Bangladesh, Afghanistan or Pakistan, the applicants have to furnish any of the nine documents listed under Schedule 1A of the CAA - a copy of the passport; birth certificate issued by a government authority; identity document of any kind issued by the government; any certificate or license issued by the government; land or tenancy records in their countries of origin; documents establishing their parents or grandparents or great grandparents were citizens of the country; or any other document issued by the government establishing that they had come from the three countries along with the citizenship forms before the competent authority.

They can also prove their nationality by furnishing a registration certificate or residential permit issued by India's Foreigners Regional Registration Officer (FRRO) or Foreigners Registration Officer (FRO). Making it easier for the immigrants whose nationality documents are either expired or will expire soon, the home ministry said they would be deemed valid irrespective of their validity period.

Declaration and eligibility certificate

Applicants will also have to submit an affidavit along with an eligibility certificate issued by a locally reputed community institution. As part of the declaration, they need to give their current residential address and the last address in their country of origin. Then they would be required to identify themselves as per their religion and specify the date they entered India. This affidavit must be attested by a Judicial Magistrate or an Executive Magistrate or an Oath Commissioner or a Notary Public.

For the eligibility certificate, applicants need Indian citizens belonging to locally reputed community institutions, who can identify and confirm them based on their nationality and religion. Citizenship will be granted retrospectively from the date of their entries in India.

Link between CAA and NRC

On the face of it, there is no immediate connection between the CAA and the National Register of Citizens (NRC). The focus of the NRC is to identify legal Indian residents, which so far has only been enforced in Assam. Union home minister Amit Shah had indicated that the NRC would be rolled out across the country by 2024 to identify unauthorised immigrants. But on a later occasion, Prime Minister Narendra Modi clarified that the NRC was not for the whole country.

Out of purview

Most regions of the northeast are exempt from the CAA. The tribal areas of Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram or Tripura are included in the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution. Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland and Manipur are exempted from the CAA.

08.04.1950: Nehru-Liaquat Agreement signed to protect religious minorities. Pak fails to honour it

30.12.1955: Citizenship Act, 1955 comes into force

1956: Citizenship Rules, 1956, come into force

1985: Assam Accord signed to tackle problems from influx of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh into Assam

28.2.2004: Government amends Citizenship Rules, 1956, gives powers to two district collectors of Rajasthan and four district collectors of Gujarat to grant citizenship to persecuted Hindu migrants from Pakistan

15.9.2004: Ashok Gehlot, then Congress general secretary, urges implementation of notification on delegation of powers to collectors for speedy grant of citizenship to persecuted Hindu migrants from Pakistan

10.12.2004: Ashok Gehlot requests waiver of all fees for visa extension and grant of citizenship to Hindu migrants from Pakistan

07/08.09.2015: Govt amends Passport (Entry into India) Rules, 1950 to exempt persecuted minorities from Bangladesh and Pakistan from penal provisions on entry of foreigners

18.07.2016: Passport rules further amended to add Afghanistan to the list of countries from where persecuted minorities would be protected

19.07.2016: Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2016 introduced in Lok Sabha to amend the Citizenship Act, 1955

11.08.2016: Bill sent to a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) for vetting

23.12.2016: Centre grants powers to Collectors of 16 districts in seven States for two years to grant citizenship by registration or by naturalisation to applicants belonging to six specified communities from Pak, Bangladesh and Afghanistan

January 2019: JPC presents report to Parliament

7.01.2019: Cabinet accepts JPC recommendations and approves revised Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2019

08.01.2019: Lok Sabha passes Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2019

May 2019: Bill lapses as Lok Sabha is dissolved

9.12.2019: Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2019 passed by new Lok Sabha

11.12.2019: Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2019 passed by Rajya Sabha

12.12.2019: Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 gets presidential assent

ELECTION COMMISSION IN THE EYE OF A STORM

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

LAST week, the surprise resignation of Election Commissioner (EC) Arun Goel and the subsequent developments ahead of the Lok Sabha elections, triggered a nationwide debate on the neutrality and the independence of the election watchdog. Though the Central government has not made any statement on the reasons for the sudden resignation of the EC yet, a high-powered committee chaired by the prime minister filled the vacancies with two new Election Commissioners on March 14.

After the resignation of Goel, the three-member Election Commission of India was left with Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Rajiv Kumar alone. The other member Anup Chandra Pandey retired in February this year. While there is criticism over the appointment of the new commissioners on the eve of the announcement of the poll schedule, former CEC S Y Quraishi said that the extraordinary situation necessitated such an action. "Elections are being announced and the government would have faced criticism if they had gone about without filling the two vacancies. It is good that a full commission will be taking the call," Quraishi told this newspaper.

EC in the thick of controversies

The abrupt resignation of Goel is the second in the last four years as his predecessor Ashok Lavasa opted to quit office in 2020. While Goel was in line to become CEC in 2025, Lavasa stepped down months before his promotion as the CEC. While the rumour was Goel exited due to some difference of opinion with the CEC, his entry too had sparked a row and was challenged in the SC in 2022. The court later observed that Goel was appointed in a 'hurried manner' by the government. Lavasa's premature exit came after his dissent note to the ECI giving a clean chit to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union home minister Amit Shah on violating the Model Code of Conduct.

While the ECI was in the eye of a storm over several other controversies from electoral bonds to VVPATs, Quraishi admits that it has tarnished the credibility of the ECI as an independent institution. "These issues wouldn't have been there if there was better communication. For instance, on VVPATs the EC should have come out and explained that there is no discrepancy. The lack of communication is creating problems and it is avoidable," he said.

The former CEC was also critical of the Election Commission's reluctance to meet the opposition parties on the issue of the use of 100% VVPAT slips and EVMs. "It is unacceptable and unpardonable. Why are they not giving an appointment? It is their job to meet the opposition and hear them out," he said.

EC appointments under new law

The appointment of the new ECs — ex-bureaucrats Gyanesh Kumar and Sukhbir Singh Sandhu has had its fair share of controversies. It is the first time that election commissioners have been appointed under the new law — Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023— passed by Parliament last year.

Raising questions over the fairness of the selection process, the sole opposition member in the committee, Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, submitted a dissent note on the procedural lapses. According to Chowdhury, the panel did not heed his request to provide the names of the shortlisted candidates in advance and was handed a shortlist of six names 10 minutes before the meeting. The committee members include the PM, Shah and Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury.

Responding to criticism on the 'lack of transparency and lightning speed' in which the appointments were done, another former CEC N Gopalaswami told this paper that it has been the convention for many years that the prime minister chooses a name from among a database of high-ranking civil servants and advises the President to make the appointment. "For the last 65 years, prime ministers have been choosing the CECs and ECs. There were no objections yet. Now what's the issue?" he asked.

Agreeing that the PM has been appointing ECs in the past without any objections, Quraishi argued that the composition of the collegium is skewed. "For the past several years, PMs have been making the appointments and there was never any objection. Therefore, if Parliament had decided that they would continue the old system, that would have been final. However, the composition of the Collegium is bad optics. That's why Adhir Ranjan objected," he said.

The contentious law

The new law, passed by Parliament in December, has been criticised for replacing the Chief Justice of India (CJI) in the selection panel for appointing election commissioners.

At present, the selection process is done by two committees — a three-member search committee headed by the law minister and two government secretaries; and a three-member selection committee headed by the PM, a Union minister nominated by the PM, and the leader of the single largest Opposition party in the Lok Sabha.

The law enacted by the government has done away with a Supreme Court order in March 2023, which directed that the CEC and ECs shall be appointed on the advice of a committee comprising the PM, CJI and the leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha. The five-judge Constitution had observed that the core values of the Constitution, including democracy, and the rule of law are being undermined. In the order, the SC also said that the committee would be operative until Parliament enacts a law on the appointment of ECs. That new law replaced the CJI with a Union minister recommended by the PM.

Legal challenges

Though the SC took up the plea against the appointment of the new election commissioners on March 15, the court declined to stay the Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act. In its plea against the law, the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) said the CJI should be brought back to the selection committee as directed by the SC. The petitioners argued that appointments were made while a challenge to the law was already pending in the SC.

On electoral bonds

After the EC published the details of the donations to political parties through electoral bonds on its website on March 14, questions were also raised on the credibility and transparency of the body. The details were published after prodding by the SC. Last month, the apex court declared electoral bonds unconstitutional.

The EC's dilly-dallying on the issue of electoral bonds has also invited scathing criticism from many quarters. In 2017, much before the Finance Ministry implemented the electoral bond scheme in 2018, the EC wrote to the ministry saying it was a "retrograde step as far as transparency of donations is concerned". In 2018, it said that the scheme has a "serious impact" on the transparency of funding of political parties.

However, contrary to its earlier stand, the Election Commission in 2021 opposed a plea in the Supreme Court for a stay on the release of the fresh set of electoral bonds. The EC's flip-flop in the electoral bond scheme impacted its credibility, says Quraishi.

"The EC's change of heart came in for public criticism because it had categorically opposed the scheme in 2018 explaining the reason. Why the change of heart with the change of incumbent? That was noticed and commented upon by all. It showed that there was a compulsion to toe the government line. It doesn't show them in glory," he said.

What Ambedkar said

The debate on the 'independence of the poll watch body' dates back to 1949, when the Chairman of the Drafting Committee Dr B R Ambedkar expressed his reservations in the Constituent Assembly that election commissioners and the CEC could come under the "thumb of the executive". While discussing the appointment of the CEC, Dr Ambedkar said, "The tenure can't be made a fixed and secure tenure if there is no provision in the Constitution to prevent a fool or a naive or a person who is likely to be under the thumb of the executive".

During the UPA rule, a panel headed by Union minister Veerappa Moily recommended that a panel led by the PM, the LS Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, law minister, and the Deputy Chairperson of the Rajya Sabha make recommendations to the President regarding appointments of the CEC and ECs. In 2012, BJP leader L K Advani toed the line of the Moily report and wrote to the then PM Manmohan Singh seeking a panel for the appointment of the CEC and ECs. Advani suggested a collegium comprising the PM, CJI, the law minister and the leaders of Opposition in both the Houses to select the CEC and the ECs.